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First major response to Gulf war ceasefire

US may modify tanker escort procedure in Gulf

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, (Agencies): The US government may soon change its convoy escort procedures in the Gulf in what would be the first major response to last month's ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, defence officials said yesterday.

Under a new plan, US-flag tankers plying the waterway would be kept within a "defensive zone" by American warships but would not be accompanied every step of the way by a Navy vessel as is now the case, the sources said.

That change in procedure would allow a slight reduction in the number of warships deployed in the Gulf—probably one fewer

ship—but would increase the flexibility of the task force commander and allow the Navy's ships to operate at a lower alert level, the officials said.

The sources, who agreed to discuss the matter only if not identified, said the change in procedure had been tentatively approved by the Pentagon and White House, but would not be ordered until allies with warships in the region and certain Mideast countries were consulted.

The Defence Department declined to discuss details of the plan yesterday but acknowledged in a statement: "The administration is considering additional steps which... (could be described as) modest modifications of our present method of providing protection to US-flagged shipping in the Gulf."

"The modifications currently under consideration do not involve any significant reduction in force levels. We are continuing to consult with our friends and allies."

until it is absolutely convinced the ceasefire will hold and that American merchant ships aren't threatened.

According to the sources, Carlucci has approved the idea of "providing flexibility" to the Navy on convoys.

"This consideration is part of what Defence Secretary (Frank) Carlucci has called a long-term proposition to return our forces to where they were (about six warships) in the region before the escorts started," one official said.

"The best way to describe it is in basketball terms, by saying you're going from a man-to-man defence to a zone defence," said one official.

"You keep your warships nearby, always close enough to act, but drop the continuous, side-by-side presence," added another source.

Voyage

In a separate development, Iraq sent an oil tanker on a return voyage down the Gulf yesterday in a fresh test of its claim to free navigation in the waterway under terms of the Gulf war ceasefire with Iran.

"The Iraqi tanker Ain Zala left Khor Al Zubair port at 10.15 am (0615 GMT) on its second voyage after the ceasefire between Iraq and Iran went into effect on Aug. 20," the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) said.

The tanker was carrying 17,000 tonnes of Iraqi crude to an undisclosed destination, it said.

The Ain Zala took a cargo of Iraqi oil to an Aden refinery in South Yemen on its first voyage through the Gulf, immediately after the UN-mediated ceasefire took hold, in a bid to test Tehran's intentions.

Reduce

The United States has 26 Navy ships assigned to its joint task force Middle East, including 17 inside the Gulf itself. As of yesterday the Navy had conducted 85 convoy operations since the summer of 1987, when the escorts began.

With the exception of the departure of one cruiser, the USS Vincennes, the naval force has not changed in size despite last month's end to hostilities between Iran and Iraq.

Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci has said repeatedly the United States will not reduce its military presence in the region

Iraq warns Israel not to raid factories

BAGHDAD, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Iraq warned Israel today not to attack any of the country's factories under the pretext they were producing chemical weapons.

It said US charges that Iraqi troops attacked Kurds with chemical arms were designed to give Israel an excuse to raid Iraq.

Information Minister Latif Nassif Al Jassim, in what was seen as a reference to Iraq's emergence as a major military power after eight years of war with Iran, said Israel should not forget "developments that took place since June 1981 when they attacked Tamouz nuclear reactor."

On the evening of June 7 that year, Israel sent two waves of warplanes to destroy the reactor saying it was about to start nuclear production.

Jassim made his statement to the official Iraqi News Agency

INA which said he was reacting to Israeli threats.

INA said Israel's justice minister had been quoted by the newspaper Al Hamishmar during a visit to Haifa as saying Israeli security would know how to eliminate the Iraqi Army chemical installations.

Jassim added: "The Zionist officials should not have any illusions and put themselves in the predicament for which they will pay dearly if they attack any target inside Iraq."

"We know that one of the main objectives of the American campaign against Iraq was to give the legitimate cover (for Israel) to mount a foolish attack against Iraq," Jassim told INA.

Iraq has repeatedly denied using chemical arms against the Kurds, although it admitted their use during the war with Iran.

Khomeini defends Guards

NICOSIA, Sept. 17, (AP): Ayatollah Khomeini today defended Iran's Revolutionary Guards, who have been blamed for battlefield defeats that forced Tehran to accept a Gulf war ceasefire.

In a message read to a Tehran seminar of Revolutionary

Guards commanders, he also said that while Iran was serious about peace with Iraq, Baghdad and "the hidden hands of other powers and superpowers" are blocking progress toward a settlement of the eight-year-old war.

(Continued on Page 2)



The Olympic cauldron is lit during the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games. (Reuters wirephoto)

Olympic Games '88

The greatest show on earth opens in Seoul

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): The Seoul Olympics opened with an oriental flourish today, but the fun and spectacle of a flawless opening ceremony fast gave way to fierce competition in the biggest Games of all time.

The thunderous beat of dragon drums heralded a parade by nearly 10,000 athletes to launch the Games.

At the first Games for 16 years to attract virtually all the world's top sports stars, the Olympic flame was lit simultaneously by three young South Koreans to tumultuous applause from 73,000 spectators.

The torch was carried into the stadium by 76-year-old Sohn Kee-Chung, a national hero who used his marathon win at the 1936 Berlin Games to condemn Japan's colonial rule over Korea.

Sohn, leaping and prancing with delight, waved the torch at the roaring crowd before handing it over for the lighting ceremony.



Korean dancers perform a dance number. (Reuters wirephoto)

Extravaganza

South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo, ruler of a land which rose from the rubble of war to become a giant among developing nations, officially declared open the Games that attracted 160 countries.

In a pageant mixing the mysticism of ancient Korea with the high-technology of a booming modern economy, the opening ceremony ushered in a 16-day sporting extravaganza.

For the first time, the Olympic ceremony began outside the stadium.

A dragon drum ship led a flotilla of 500 boats that swept down the majestic River Han on a sunlit autumn day to the arena.

A giant dragon drum, pounding like a human heartbeat, was carried into the stadium, cymbals clashed and folk dancers in multi-coloured costumes whirled across the arena.

Lifted

In another break with tradition, the flame was lit jointly by a South Korean teacher, a marathon runner and a woman dance student who were dramatically lifted on an elevator platform to the rim of the cauldron.

The torch was brought from Greece, the fountainhead of democracy and cradle of the Olympics, to South Korea, now tentatively embarked on the road to democracy after years of military rule.

Five South Korean jets traced the Olympic rings above the stadium and when the symbolic flame of the Games was lit three more poured a rainbow of smoke across the clear blue sky.

South Korea was a battlefield for the superpowers 35 years ago. Now, the Soviet Union, the United States and China will be fighting each other on the sports field.

Iran and Iraq marched in the same parade for the first time since the truce in their eight-year-old Gulf war. They came in just three teams apart.

(Continued on Page 2)

End military control, Shultz asks Israel

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, (Agencies): Secretary of State George Shultz called on Israel last night to end its military rule over the West Bank and Gaza and to give Palestinian Arabs "rapid control over political and economic decisions that affect their lives."

Shultz, in a speech on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the Camp David accords, rejected both Israeli annexation of the territories and creation of a Palestinian state.

He also opposed a proposal by Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO that Israel be forced to withdraw to the lines of partition approved by the United Nations before the Jewish state was established in 1948.

Approved

"Israel will never negotiate from or return to the lines of partition," Shultz told a Middle East conference at the Wye Plantation near Queenstown, Maryland.

"But it must be prepared to withdraw—as Resolution 242 says—from territories occupied in the recent conflict," Shultz said. "Peace and security for all sides are at stake."

He quoted from the resolution approved by the UN Security Council at the end of the 1967 Mideast war. It does not specifically call on Israel to give up all the territory the Arabs lost—not did Shultz.

But he also did not call for Israel's retention of any of the land, which includes the eastern half of Jerusalem that has become part of Israel's capital.

Since Dec. 9, there have been violent demonstrations against Israeli rule by Palestinians living in the occupied territories.

Shultz spoke of "fundamental constants" in searching for an Arab-Israeli settlement.

The first point was that "the status quo serves the interest of no party" and that peace in the region depends on an agreement between Palestinians and Israelis.

On the Arab side, Shultz gave

high priority to the Palestinians and referred almost in passing to Jordan whose King Hussein this summer abandoned any claim to represent the 1.4 million Palestinians who live on the West Bank and in Gaza.

"Palestinians need to achieve rapid control over political and economic decisions that affect their lives," Shultz said. "Israelis need time to adjust to a new situation, one in which Palestinians—not Israeli military government officials—administer the West Bank and Gaza."

He rejected the position taken by some Israelis that since Palestinians form a clear majority of Jordan's population the country should become their state while Israel retains the West Bank.

"Jordan is a vibrant and heterogeneous society, with a strong national identity of its own," Shultz said. "It is not a Palestinian state."

He said Palestinians have a right to participate actively in every stage of negotiations and "must approve the outcome."

At the same time, Shultz called on Palestinians to pursue credible goals.

"The status of the West Bank and Gaza cannot be determined by unilateral acts of either side, but only through a process of negotiations," Shultz said.

Boycotted

"A declaration of independent Palestinian statehood or government-in-exile would be such a unilateral act," he said.

In four trips to the Middle East this year Shultz was unable to set up Mideast peace talks. Palestinians under Arafat's instructions, boycotted his attempts to meet with them.

Hussein demanded a commitment from Israel that it would give up the West Bank and Gaza, while Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir opposed the peace conference. Shultz proposed because it might give an influential role to the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, in a statement (Continued on Page 2)

Nusrat Bhutto returns for election campaign

KARACHI, Sept. 17, (Agencies): The widow of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto returned to Pakistan today to help her pregnant daughter Benazir in November's general elections.

Police said Nusrat Bhutto was welcomed by Benazir in an airport lounge and then whisked away to their family home in Karachi.

Nusrat arrived exactly a month after the mystery plane crash which killed President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and threw Pakistani politics wide open again after his 11-year rule.

Benazir, who inherited leadership of her father's Pakistan People's Party, is widely seen as a favourite to win the Nov 16 election, if held on party-basis. Her first child is due in November, which is expected to restrict her campaigning.

"Nusrat will definitely help Benazir in campaigning ahead of the election," said an official of the main opposition alliance, which includes the People's Party.

Treatment

Nusrat was held under house arrest after her husband's execution in 1979 following conviction on murder conspiracy charges.

She was allowed to leave Pakistan in 1982 for treatment of suspected cancer, returning to Pakistan briefly last December to attend Benazir's wedding to Karachi businessman Asif Ali Zardari.

Zia had called the November elections on a non-party basis after firing a civilian government last May.

The acting President, former Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan, ordered the polls to proceed on schedule but left to the Supreme Court a petition filed by the PPP challenging the non-party provision.

Justices will begin hearing arguments on Oct. 2.

When Zia dissolved the old National Assembly and fired the



Nusrat returns

government of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, he kept on some of his most loyal Pakistan Muslim League proteges in a caretaker cabinet.

That group, headed by former Northwest Frontier Province Governor Fida Mohammad Khan, formed its own Muslim League faction in August. It left the party divided between Zia loyalists and the more moderate backers of Junejo.

Junejo was rescued yesterday by former National Assembly Speaker Hamid Nasir Chaththa after he was attacked by Zia loyalists at a public meeting in the city of Khushab.

Zia loyalists stoned the van in which Junejo arrived in Khushab.

Chaththa, who was driving the van did not let Junejo come out and sped out of Khushab.

Truth

Benazir Bhutto said yesterday Pakistanis wanted to know the truth behind the air crash in which Zia was killed.

"Why is the nation being kept in the dark?" Benazir asked Ishaq Khan at a book-launching ceremony at her home.

"The acting President should come forward and take the nation into his confidence," she said.

Iraq considering diverting Shatt Al Arab

IRAQ is considering a gargantuan plan to divert the waters of the Shatt Al Arab to a new site, at least 20 kilometres (12 miles) away from the frontiers with Iran, the daily Al-Sayassah reported yesterday.

Control over the estuary separating the two belligerents is a major stumbling block in the United Nations-sponsored peace talks aimed at ending the eight-year war. Iraq insists that the waterway be cleared immediately, while Iran claims the Shatt Al Arab is a secondary issue covered by an earlier treaty.

Negotiations

Quoting unidentified sources, the newspaper said that Iraq would undertake the diversion project if the present negotiations failed to bring about a solution that it accepted.

The water flows through the estuary from the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers into the Gulf.

The project would cost an estimated \$5 to \$10 billion and "is feasible from an economic viewpoint," the paper said.

The sources likened the project to the digging of the Panama Canal, the expansion of the Suez canal or the Israeli-proposed canal for linking the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean.

Palestinian massacre anniversary Arab youth shot dead

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Troops in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip killed one Palestinian and wounded at least 27 in clashes today, the anniversary of the 1982 massacre of Palestinians in Lebanese refugee camps.

Most of the wounded were under 18 and the youngest was 12 years old, Palestinian sources said.

Security sources said more than 100 suspected Palestinian activists were arrested during sweeps on several towns and refugee camps in the West Bank, about 300,000 Palestinians were under curfew and the Army closed wide areas to journalists.

Unity

In a rare display of unity, secular leaders of a Palestinian uprising in the occupied areas and Islamic militants marked the anniversary with a general strike that Gaza and West Bank residents said was more widely observed than previous stoppages.

Israeli-backed Lebanese Christians killed several hundred Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Shatilla camps in September 1982, three months after Israeli forces invaded Lebanon.

In the current nine-month uprising against Israeli occupation

of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, at least 276 Palestinians and six Israelis have been killed.

Security sources said troops in the West Bank city of Jenin shot dead 17-year-old Ismael Arkanawi and wounded another Arab teenager during anti-Israel protests there.

Palestinian sources said at least six Arabs were wounded when soldiers opened fire on demonstrators in the West Bank village of Zeita.

At Kalandia Palestinian refugee camp troops wounded at least five people, including a 15-year-old boy, during fierce clashes, witnesses said.

Soldiers at the Al Amari refugee camp fired tear gas and rubber bullets in an attempt to disperse a mass demonstration and, when they failed, they ordered journalists out of the area, a photographer said.

Palestinian sources said soldiers opened fire after the reporters left, injuring three people, among them a 13-year-old girl seriously wounded in the head.

The Army clamped curfews on Tulikarem, Dahariyeh and parts of Nablus in the West Bank and extended curfews in the Gaza Strip to six of the area's eight refugee camps and several districts of Gaza city, residents said.

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- سیول میں اولمپک کھیلوں کا افتتاح
- جو نیجے کے جلسہ میں ہنگامہ
- آرائی
- نصرت بھٹو پاکستان پہنچ گئیں
- یرمیں فوج کی مظاہرین پر فائرنگ
- کیمیائی اسلحہ کے الزام پر عراق کا اقدام
- آشوریہ کو قاتلوں کا سہارا اور احتجاج
- عالمی واقعات پر تبصرہ اور پوشیدگیات

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light to moderate northwesterly wind.
State of sea: slight to moderate
High water: 5.00 pm
Low water: 10.00 am, 10.00 pm
Sunrise: 5.34 am
Sunset: 5.50 pm
Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 45°C (113°F)
Ahmedi: 41°C (106°F)
Falkaka: 41°C (106°F)
Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 44°C (111°F)
Ahmedi: 40°C (104°F)
Falkaka: 40°C (104°F)
Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 30 per cent
Ahmedi: 30 per cent
Falkaka: 30 per cent
Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 30 per cent
Ahmedi: 30 per cent
Falkaka: 30 per cent

WAT:

- Planning my next Holiday in Europe
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- Latest Results of Gold Medals in Seoul
- New York's Stock Market Closing Prices
- Tonight's list of on-call Doctors in Kuwait

INTERNATIONAL

Pope preaches reconciliation in war-torn area of Mozambique

BEIRA, Mozambique, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Mutilated victims of Mozambique's civil war sat in wheelchairs by the altar today as Pope John Paul preached reconciliation and non-violence to one of the largest gatherings of his southern Africa tour.

"Violence, as always, generates violence, fear and death, seriously restricting liberty," the Pope told 25,000 people assembled on what was once a golf course in the Indian Ocean port of Beira, the second city of this Marxist former Portuguese colony.

Situation

He said the situation was worse when men turned their backs on God.

Speaking from an altar topped with dried palm fronds and a simple wooden cross, the Pope said that Mozambique was living "an ecclesiastical experience... of reconciliation with God, with itself and with others. The gospel is reconciliation...."

War-ravaged Mozambique, which has two million Catholics in a population of 14.5 million people, has given the Pope the warmest welcome of his five-nation tour.

Five thousand people greeted him at Beira when he flew to the central region 700 km (430 miles) north of the capital Maputo. Thousands more lined the route into town. Some of the faithful had travelled 70 miles (110 km) by river from the interior to see him.

Some of the dancers and drummers who took part in the greeting were Muslims.

But evidence of Mozambique's economic collapse during 12 years of war with right-wing guerrillas of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) was everywhere visible.

Many windows were broken in decaying houses on the Pope's route which passed by long, sandy beaches.

The Pontiff was scheduled to fly further north to Nampula, in a region also badly hit by the war, before returning to Maputo this evening.

At the open-air mass in Beira, about 20 invalids sat in wheelchairs to the Pope's left. The most common injuries among them were missing limbs, blown off by landmines.

During the mass, hundreds of women dancers dressed in blue, yellow and orange native cloth wraps and headclothes swayed rhythmically as they sang hymns on a podium to the right of the altar.

Private letters

LONDON, Sept. 17, (AP): A lawyer who represented the Duke and Duchess of Windsor for 40 years said she was fulfilling the Duchess' wishes when she allowed a protégé to publish the couple's private correspondence, a newspaper reported yesterday.

800,000 people left homeless

Hurricane Gilbert batters northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 17, (Agencies): Hurricane Gilbert battered northern Mexico with heavy winds and rains today but lost strength as it bore down on Monterrey, the country's third largest city.

US forecasters downgraded Gilbert to a tropical storm as it moved inland and away from the water that generates its power, but warned that flash flooding and isolated tornadoes still threatened the Texas coast.

Blamed

The century's most powerful hurricane had lost some of its strength before it moved inland from the Gulf of Mexico, but it still whipped up winds of 120 miles per hour (200 kph).

The once-massive storm has been blamed for at least 78 deaths and has left more than 800,000 people homeless since it began cutting across the Caribbean earlier in the week.

Gilbert made landfall yesterday afternoon at the small fishing village of La Pesca, about 200 miles (300 km) south of the US-Mexican border, lashing the coast with 20 foot (six metre) waves, according to Tamaulipas state governor Americo Villareal.

"Fortunately the precautions taken before have meant that to date we have no reports of deaths," he said.

In Monterrey, a city of 2.5 million with extensive industry about 210 miles (335 km) northwest of La Pesca, municipal secretary Luis Montemayor said police were evacuating residents of poor neighbourhoods as floodwaters built up late yesterday.

Roads from Monterrey to the west and north were blocked by landslides.

Rampage

It was Gilbert's second swipe at Mexico in two days. On Wednesday at least 29 people died in the Yucatan peninsula as the storm made its first landfall in Mexico. The hurricane also killed at least 49 people in a rampage through the Caribbean earlier in the week. The government agency Notimex said 300,000 people lost their homes in Mexico's Yucatan peninsula.

The storm, which in its earlier stages was the most powerful ever recorded in the Western Hemisphere, was not thought to have caused major damage as it

pressed inland from La Pesca, passing over sparsely-populated cattle farming land.

But residents of Linares, a city of 70,000 about 140 miles (240 km) northwest of La Pesca, began to flee for shelter as the hurricane headed toward them.

Frightened

"People are frightened and are flocking here, especially those living along the river," said Alicia Castillo, a Red Cross worker. She appealed for food and blankets.

US National Hurricane Centre spokesman Boh Case said heavy winds and rains were battering the Texas coast and that half a dozen offshore tornadoes had been reported.

"The potential problem now is the heavy rains creating flash floods and isolated tornadoes," Case said from the centre in Coral Gables, Florida.

Wind speeds had dropped to about 60 miles an hour (100 kph), he said.

According to Juan Carlos Padilla, co-ordinator of the National Civil Protection System (SNPC), at least 60,000 people were left homeless in the Yucatan peninsula.

Heavy rains from the storm drowned eight people in Honduras, where officials said about 6,000 people were homeless.

Mexican President Miguel de La Madrid was travelling today to Cancun, Cozumel and Merida, the main peninsula towns affected by Gilbert.

Many residents of Matamoros and Brownsville left their homes and headed inland on Thursday and Friday. Forecasters originally had expected Gilbert to make landfall at the border.

In Houston, forecasters said the passage of Gilbert had brought high tides to the Gulf of Mexico that will persist through the weekend.

All along the Texas coast tides were above normal, said Larry Vannozzi, National Weather Service meteorologist. There was some low-land flooding and beach erosion, but little serious damage.

"The gulf is really stirred up," Vannozzi said. "It will take a while to calm down because it's like a big bathtub."

In Brownsville, winds gusting to near hurricane levels but the main threat seemed to be from tornadoes and heavy rains.



A Cuban freighter was blown ashore by hurricane Gilbert, as the storm ravaged Mexico's Yucatan peninsula. (Reuters wirephoto)

Walesa meets interior minister

Solidarity agrees on full-scale talks with Polish authorities

WARSAW, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Poland's communist authorities and Solidarity will start full-scale negotiations on the country's future next month at which the re-legalisation of the banned union will be a central subject.

Solidarity sources said they were confident the government would restore the movement's legal status, but said it remained to be seen in what form the union would be allowed to operate.

The authorities, who suppressed Solidarity under martial law in December, 1981, may make the union legal again but say it cannot return as an independent mass movement with the capacity to ferment widespread labour unrest.

Closer

Solidarity chairman Lech Walesa and Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak reached the agreement to start the full-scale negotiations in mid-October after more than six hours of discussions yesterday.

"I am happy. We have brought our positions closer," Walesa said after the meeting. "Many things were discussed, but I have to repeat again — there is no freedom without Solidarity."

The agreement marked a sharp turn in official attitudes to Solidarity. The authorities interned thousands of activists under martial law, dispersed street protests with force and refused for years to deal with Walesa and his colleagues.

Contacts

A sign of the changing times was the presence at yesterday's talks of Wladyslaw Frasyniuk, a militant activist who helped organise Solidarity's underground wing under martial law and was once one of Poland's most wanted political fugitives.

The government resumed contacts with Walesa after two waves of strikes this year.

Protests last month at major industrial centres including the port of Gdansk, Solidarity's birthplace, turned into Poland's worst labour unrest since 1981.

Government officials say the decision to negotiate with the opposition does not mean that the Communist Party has changed what it describes as a course of reconciliation and "socialist renewal" pursued since martial law.

But independent Polish political sources say the resumption of contacts with Solidarity shows the government has recognised the failure of almost seven years of attempts to overcome public distrust and apathy.

Deal

Next month's negotiations are expected to involve the government, Solidarity, Roman Catholic church officials, pro-communist trade unionists and politicians, and independent Polish public figures.

\$450m sought in Arab aid

AMMAN, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Jordanian and PLO officials discussed today ways of persuading Arab states to pay some \$450 million in aid they say is owing to Israeli-occupied territories.

Sources for the fund set up by the Arab League in 1978 to help Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip said its coffers were empty.

"We are confident that Arab countries will co-operate and settle their dues," a Palestinian official said.

"We will discuss how to approach all Arab countries who have failed so far to support the fund or to pay all their dues... our target is around \$450 million," said Ahmed Al Qatani, head of the Foreign Ministry's new department for Palestinian affairs, ahead of the meeting.

The evening session of the joint Jordan-PLO fund committee was the first since King Hussein severed links with the West Bank on July 31.

The greatest show on earth opens in Seoul

(Continued from Page 1)

Sprinter Evelyn Ashford was the first black athlete to carry the flag for the United States, whose 612-strong team was greeted with a roar of welcome that was later dwarfed by the reception for South Korea, last into the stadium.

Stranded

A Belfast Protestant led the contingent from the Catholic Irish Republic.

Burma was poignantly represented by just one trainer. Its two long-distance runners have been stranded in Rangoon by the popular uprising that has halted all international flights.

Half-naked athletes from Swaziland, Mongolia and American Samoa drew whoops of delight. The Dutch carried orange umbrellas to shield themselves in the sweltering heat. The Bermudians wore shorts.

Among West Germany's 408 athletes marched millionairess Steffi Graf, the world's top woman tennis player whose sport is back in the Olympics after 64 years.

The one flag the South Koreans would dearly love to have seen at the stadium was missing. North Korea boycotted the Games after failing in four years of negotiations to be accepted as co-hosts.

Fearing possible reprisals from the North as well as terrorist attacks, South Korea has staged what the International Olympic Committee called the highest security operation mounted in peacetime.

The Games attracted more countries than there are members of the United Nations. The only others to stay away were Albania, Cuba, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Nicaragua and the Seychelles.

Spectacular

South Korea hopes the \$3 billion Games will mark its coming of age on the global stage as the Tokyo Games in 1964 confirmed Japan's post-war acceptance as an international force.

Seoul, capital of one of the world's fastest-expanding economies, used the spectacular opening ceremony as a showcase for its high-technology achievements and as an affirmation of South Korea's newfound self-confidence.

Close-ups of folk dancers in flowing robes and taekwondo martial arts experts in mock combat were flashed on a giant video screen overlooking the imposing stadium with its striking swastika roof.

Parachutes in the Olympic colours billowed out from 76 skydivers from around the world who dropped in waves into the arena.

Some did a spectacular freefall with their hands linked together in the shape of the five Olympic rings.

In silence, a boy born on the day in 1981 when Seoul was awarded the Games skipped across the field rolling a hoop.

Old and new mingled in a breath-taking finale with giant rope battering rams charging at each other to the insistent pounding of drums in a grand version of a traditional village game.

Then from a giant silver disco stage in the centre of the arena, the black-suited pop group Koreana led the cheering stadium in the Games theme song "Hand in Hand."

Competitiveness

After the sense of harmony of the opening ceremony the fierce competitiveness of top class sport quickly surfaced as a Tunisian and a Swede were sent off in an early soccer game.

In the diving pool youth shone in the small, expressionless form of Chen Xiaodan, 14, who topped the preliminary round of the women's highboard diving in her first taste of top international competition.

The big powers of sport began to emerge even in the first exchanges, and US and Soviet rivals were ready to closely challenge for the women's high diving and other medals tomorrow.

East Europeans, back in the Olympics after missing the Los Angeles Games, made an immediate impact.

They stamped their class on the first boxing bouts, where some fighters were confused by the unprecedented use of two rings simultaneously to cope with a record entry.

In other events to be decided tomorrow, Soviet shooter Igor Bassinski, a clear favourite for gold in the men's free pistol shooting after breaking the world record 10 times in the last three years. East Germany and Soviet Union are vying for the 100-km cycling team trial.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Shuttle launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., Sept. 17, (Reuters): The US space agency announced yesterday it planned to launch the space shuttle Discovery on Sept. 29 in the first manned US space flight since the 1986 Challenger disaster.

Richard Truly, the National Aeronautic and Space Administration's associate administrator for space flight, said in a statement the decision was "based on over two years of persistence and dedication."

Blood serum

LONDON, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Blood serum from carriers of the AIDS virus could prove to be a key element in treating the killer disease, US and British scientists say.

The research team wrote in today's edition of the British science magazine the Lancet that six seriously ill AIDS patients enjoyed remissions of up to 11 weeks after receiving blood from a carrier who had not developed any AIDS symptoms.

Harper gets \$1.6m

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 17, (Reuters): A superior court judge here awarded actress Valerie Harper \$1.6 million yesterday for being dismissed from a television series named after her.

Her lawyer, Barry Landberg, said Harper and her husband, Tony Cacciotti, a physical fitness instructor who was dismissed as a co-executive producer of "Valerie," could eventually receive as much as \$10 to \$15 million.

End military control, Shultz asks Israel

(Continued from Page 1)

marking the 10th anniversary of the Camp David accord, former President Jimmy Carter said Hussein's withdrawal and the Palestinian uprising on the West Bank "opens the prospects for serious discussion between Israel and Palestinians."

Carter, who worked out the Israeli-Egyptian agreement at Camp David that produced a peace treaty in 1979, said that "while the accords were not perfect, they proved that negotiations and diplomacy can bring Arab and Israeli together."

In a statement issued in Atlanta, the former President said Jordanians, Palestinians and Syrians "should have been more thoroughly briefed about the negotiating process."

Egypt marked the anniversary of the Camp David peace accord by once again blaming "Israeli intransigence" for the US-brokered plan's failure to give the Palestinians a voice in ruling themselves.

But except for the bitterly worded statement by Boutros Ghali, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, the diplomatic milestones passed largely unnoticed in Cairo.

Arab League ambassador to the United Nations Clovis Makoud lashed out at Shultz, saying: "His recipe for Middle East peace repeats conflicting policies designed more to lure Palestinians into false hopes than help achieve active, durable and just peace."

Makoud said: "Shultz misreads the Palestinian uprising when he asserts that it has not altered the fundamental nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

"From this erroneous assumption he constructs a policy that is inconsistent, incoherent and targeted albeit tailored in a new style," Makoud said.

Khomeini defends Revolutionary Guards

(Continued from Page 1)

Khomeini's message was broadcast by state-run Tehran Radio.

Khomeini's defence of the 350,000-strong Revolutionary Guards Corps, which is now stronger than the regular Army, underlined differences in Tehran over efforts to merge the guards, known as Pasdaran, with the military.

Khomeini said: "The Revolutionary Guards Corps was one of the most important trenches in defending the divine virtues of our revolution, and will continue to do so."

He said: "I seriously admit that you are needed in times of peace, as you are needed in times of war."

"I believe you are my closest and dearest aides... and I am thankful to you."

Warning that Iraq was "causing some difficulty" in peace talks, Khomeini called on Iran's forces to remain in "readiness."



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Mujahedeen rocket Afghan cities

MOSCOW, Sept 17, (UPI): Afghan mujahedeen launched rocket attacks on the cities of Kabul, Jalalabad and Gardiz yesterday killing at least six people and injuring three others, the Soviet news agency Tass said today.

Tass said the deaths occurred in Jalalabad, a provincial capital near the Pakistan border. The injuries took place during the attack on Gardiz about 120 miles (190 km) southeast of Kabul.

The news agency said clashes between Afghan government troops and rebels were reported in three districts near Kabul on Friday.

Since the start of the Soviet troop withdrawal in May, the US-backed rebels have stepped up their attacks on major urban areas once firmly under Soviet-Afghan control.

Withdrawal
The Soviets are expected to complete the withdrawal of their more than 100,000 troops by Feb 15 in accordance with the peace agreement signed in Geneva last April.

The Kremlin has accused Pakistan and the United States of violating that accord by continuing to supply the Muslim rebels with weapons and shelter.

Pakistan claims that Soviet aircraft have been used in attacks against rebel positions in violation of the Geneva agreement and also says Afghan Air Force planes have attacked Pakistani villages in recent weeks killing innocent civilians.

Two Arabs died while fighting along with Afghan mujahedeen in a recent battle for the Afghan border town of Spin Boldak, it was reported today.

The daily Natioo of Lahore identified them as Abu Zahr (23), and Abu Yusuf (25), both Palestinians.

Zahr and Yusuf joined the mujahedeen seven years ago and fought in the Kandhar province.

Rail link between Dhaka and Chittagong restored

DHAKA, Sept 17, (Agencies): Rains stopped today and waters receded further from the worst floods ever to hit Bangladesh, but the summer monsoon death toll rose to 932 after waterborne disease killed at least 28 more people, officials said.

The government's official count is generally considered too low. Dhaka newspapers estimate at least 1,888 people have died.

Health officials said at least 57,881 cases of diarrhoea have been reported nationwide in the epidemic that has broken out in the impoverished country of 110 million.

Repairs
An estimated 40 million people have been affected by the floods, which have inundated 53 of the country's 64 administrative districts.

Rail links from the capital of Dhaka to large towns such as Chittagong, the main port, and Sylhet, were restored yesterday following major repairs to the railroad bridge at Tongi, on Dhaka's outskirts. The bridge

It is up to Washington and Moscow to remove bases: Aquino

Asia cautiously considers Soviet proposals

MANILA, Sept 17, (Agencies): President Corason Aquino said today it was up to the United States and Soviet Union to decide on a mutual withdrawal from Southeast Asian bases, while the US and other Asian governments reacted cautiously to new Soviet proposals for the Pacific region.

"That is for the two superpowers to discuss and to talk about," Mrs Aquino said in reaction to a proposal by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to withdraw from what the United States says is the Soviet Union's largest foreign naval base. In return for withdrawing from Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, Gorbachev said the US should leave bases it occupies in the Philippines.

Criticised
In his speech yesterday, Gorbachev also renewed his call for a Chinese-Soviet summit, announcing that the Soviet Union had frozen its nuclear stocks in Soviet

Asia, and proposed the dismantling or conversion of a controversial Soviet radar installation, which the US claims violates the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty. He also claimed that Japan was building up its military at the request of the US.

Gorbachev's proposal for removal of US bases from the Philippines was criticised today by the chairwoman of the Philippines Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Sen. Leticia Shahani called the Soviet offer "small" and said the US-run Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base are "far bigger complexes" than the Kremlin's base at Cam Ranh Bay.

The Soviet leader's call came against a backdrop of growing Filipino opposition to the US bases in the Philippines. Talks between the US and the Philippines, reviewing the final two years of the lease for six US bases, have stalled because of disputes over compensation and other

issues.

On Thursday, US Secretary of State George Shultz said in Washington that the US wanted to keep Clark, Subic and four other installations but that Filipino demands for more money were too high.

Filipino Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus has said the Americans have offered about \$502 million in compensation but added that \$1.2 billion annual Philippine demand was "reasonable."

Study
US President Reagan responded cautiously to Gorbachev's bases deal, saying: "I haven't had an opportunity to go into it in detail... but I look forward to doing that because certainly we want to do anything we can to help bring about a better relationship between our two countries."

Meanwhile, the Japanese Foreign Ministry countered Gorbachev's assertion that

Japan was increasing its military potential at the behest of the United States.

"We regret that Soviet understanding of Japan's defence capability and defence policy is not sufficient," the statement said.

However, the ministry welcomed part of Gorbachev's statement that it considered to be a basis for "revitalisation of bilateral relations."

Welcome
Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita said today he welcomed the chance for improved relations with Moscow suggested by the new Soviet proposals on Asia, the Kyodo news agency reported.

"I've heard General-Secretary Gorbachev expressed his desire of improving ties with Japan," Kyodo quoted Takeshita as saying. "I welcome his speech in this respect."

Takeshita, in Seoul for the opening of the Olympic Games,

said he would study Gorbachev's wide-ranging proposals, the news agency said. And he urged the Soviets also to improve security in Northeast Asia.

Japan-Soviet relations have remained chilly while Moscow's ties with the West have improved under Gorbachev. Tokyo and Moscow are burdened by legacies of World War II, including a territorial dispute over islands in the Kurile chain, and they have not signed a peace treaty ending the war.

In Beijing, the Chinese government did not respond today to Gorbachev's latest appeal for a summit.

The Communist Party newspaper, the People's Daily, reported Gorbachev's remarks on Soviet-Chinese relations without any comment.

The two communist neighbours have been at political odds since the early 1960s, when they split bitterly over strategic and ideological differences.



Jayewardene and Premadasa (left) pose for photographers after the Sri Lankan President announced that he will not seek office a third time.

Jayewardene likely to pull the strings

COLOMBO, Sept 17, (Reuters): Junius Jayewardene is likely to play an active role within his party despite his decision not to seek a third term after 10 years in power, political analysts said today.

"He'll be the elder statesman," said Ranjan Wijeratne, chairman of Jayewardene's United National Party (UNP).

Jayewardene told party colleagues on the eve of his 82nd birthday yesterday that he did not want to run in the presidential elections due in December because the constitution allows only two terms.

He proposed Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa, 64, as the candidate and the working committee, the party's highest policy-making body, accepted it unanimously.

"I'm very happy. It was unanimous choice," Jayewardene said.

Retire
Party officials said Jayewardene planned to retire from politics after he formally gives up office in February. But, they said, Jayewardene would act as an adviser to the party.

"He'll still be an influence in the UNP," said Lakshman Jayakody, an opposition member of parliament from the Freedom Party (SLFP).

The main issue is a post-Jayewardene government will be the

future of the 1987 pact he signed with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to end the island's guerrilla war waged by minority Tamils seeking a separatist state in the north and east.

Many Sinhalese, who make up 75 per cent of the population, are angry at Jayewardene because they feel the pact gave too many concessions to the minority Tamils, who constitute 13 per cent of the population.

Soldiers
At least 52,000 Indian soldiers were sent to two Sri Lankan provinces to enforce the pact.

The opposition's main candidate, Sirima Bandaranaike, promises to renegotiate the pact with New Delhi.

Premadasa, Jayewardene's candidate, boycotted official functions when Rajiv visited Sri Lanka last year, but he eventually voted for the pact in parliament.

"It will be very difficult for Premadasa to openly go against the terms of the accord," said an analyst from a private research centre.

"It shall be my endeavour to continue the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of our motherland," Premadasa said shortly after his party's nomination.

Jayewardene celebrated his last birthday in office today, planning sabbings and inaugurating a court complex.

3 injured as Burmese troops open fire on demonstrators

RANGOON, Sept 17, (Agencies): Troops opened fire on crowds of angry demonstrators who surrounded three government buildings in downtown Rangoon today and threatened to burn one to the ground.

At least three protesters were wounded.

Clambering over adjacent rooftops, students entered the top floor of the Trade Ministry building, which was ringed by thousands of demonstrators and lightly guarded by soldiers.

Earlier, soldiers had opened fire and slightly wounded three people, including two girls, drawing a large crowd that was prepared to set the building afire until Buddhist monks intervened.

Two other nearby downtown buildings, City Hall and the Central Bank, were also surrounded by demonstrators, who demanded an interim government and the end to 26 years of authoritarian rule. Some shooting was heard in the area.

Some opposition leaders, who are believed to be negotiating with President Maung Maung's government, were attempting to stop violence from escalating.

Yesterday, key opposition figure Aung Gyi defused a potentially bloody confrontation between soldiers and demonstrators moving on the Ministry of Defence armed with spears, swords and knives.

"They don't seem to be afraid of the guns. They are angry and frustrated," said one Burmese intellectual, who watched the demonstrators facing off against rifle-armed troops yesterday.

The reeveed protests indicated the population of Rangoon, the nation's capital, was unsatisfied with yet another concession by the government.

The state-owned Radio Rangoon announced yesterday that all military personnel and civil servants would have to resign from the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) and refrain from membership in all future political parties.

The decision, the radio said, was made at the recommendation of a recently formed election commission, which is to supervise multi-party elections in about three months. The opposition has rejected this move, saying an interim government must be formed before elections take place.

About two-thirds of the 2.5 million members of the ruling party came from military and civil service ranks.

Opposition leaders dismissed the purge as "an empty gesture."

Earlier in the day about 500 saffron-clad Buddhist monks and students began a 48-hour hunger strike in front of City Hall to press the same demands for a return to democracy.

At the same time a commercial airliner left Bangkok headed for Rangoon - the first flight to the Burmese capital for about two weeks. It carried mostly Burmese sailors stranded in Thailand by the political turmoil to their country.

Before the shooting erupted, hundreds of thousands of demonstrators marched through central Rangoon cheered on by huge crowds lining the pavements.

Last weekend the government announced multi-party elections to be held within three months, bending to opposition pressure after months of street protests and strikes that have crippled the country.

But it made no mention of stepping down in the interim.



Young Burmese students march in Rangoon during a demonstration for democracy.

UN successful in easing tensions General Assembly to convene amid upbeat atmosphere

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 17, (AP): The 43rd General Assembly convenes Tuesday in an upbeat mood of improved East-West ties. UN successes in Afghanistan and the Gulf and a cooling of the conflict between the world body and the US government.

The three-month session of 159 nations promises to be one of the busiest ever. The agenda includes almost 150 items, and the annual series of speeches by national leaders begins Sept 26.

Meanwhile, the secretary-general continues his efforts to make peace in the Gulf, Southern Africa, the Western Sahara and elsewhere.

Days before the opening, a behind-the-scenes tug of war was under way over the largely ceremonial post of president, with Argentina and Britain, opponents in the Falklands (Malvinas) war, again pitted against each other.

Britain is backing Barbados' UN ambassador Dame Ruth Nita Barrow against Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo. Both are considered distinguished diplomats, well-qualified for the post, and the race appeared close.

Western diplomats have speculated that because of the changing Middle East situation the time might be right to repeal a

of East Germany for the past year, is significant because the president controls the agenda, the order of speakers and the length of speeches. The president also meets in formally with members to help resolve issues and set the tone for debates.

The election of president will be conducted Tuesday afternoon by secret ballot. A simple majority is required.

The General Assembly will take up personal issues: the Middle East conflict, apartheid, disarmament, Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, Kampuchea, Central America and human rights around the world. But the shape of the Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq and Kampuchean resolutions is expected to change because of peace efforts and dialogues under way.

Offended
Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, is reported likely to attend sometime after the three-week general debate and has expressed willingness to meet with Israelis to discuss the Palestinian crisis.

Western diplomats have speculated that because of the changing Middle East situation the time might be right to repeal a

1975 resolution which equated Zionism with racism—a resolution which offended the United States and Israel and raised questions about fairness at the United Nations.

The Assembly will open this year amid improved relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. US-Soviet summits and a nuclear arms treaty auger well for improved superpower co-operation and adoption of resolutions by consensus, instead of divisive votes.

Diplomats said the Soviet Union, which has been promoting the importance of the United Nations and paying its dues, again will play a dominant role. Soviet diplomats pointedly have contrasted what they call the Soviet Union's more constructive role with what they describe as US intransigence over withholding dues and often voting in isolation, or with Israel and South Africa.

But last week, the United States announced it would pay \$188 million in back dues by the end of November and make arrangements to pay \$520 million in arrears to the United Nations and its agencies. The US has already paid \$15m to the UN.

Murphy discusses Lebanese crisis with Assad

DAMASCUS, Sept 17, (Reuters): US envoy Richard Murphy discussed efforts to break the deadlock over Lebanon's presidential election with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad today, diplomats said.

They said this suggested some progress might have been made towards resolving the crisis in Lebanon, where no successor has yet been chosen to President Amin Gemayel whose term ends on Sept 23.

Murphy has been holding intensive negotiations in Syria, the main foreign broker in Lebanon, to try to fill the looming constitutional vacuum and avert a fresh outbreak of the country's civil war.

Indicated
Details of his talks were not known, but the diplomats said his decision to stay in Damascus for a fifth day indicated that both Syria and the United States were determined to hammer out an agreement.

Murphy has held three sessions of talks with Vice-President Abdel-Halim Khaddam, an expert on Lebanon, and also had another meeting with Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharrar, the diplomats said.

The official Syrian news agency SANA said after the two-hour meeting between Murphy and Assad that the US envoy had conveyed greetings from President Reagan, which Assad reciprocated.

Their talks dealt with Lebanon and the Middle East, SANA said without giving details.

Lebanon's Parliament failed to achieve a quorum to elect a President on Aug 18 because of a boycott by hard line Christians, but has been summoned to meet again on Sept 22 to make another attempt to choose Gemayel's successor.

The diplomats said Murphy was trying to persuade the Syrians to withdraw their support for former President Sulaiman Franjeh, the almost certain winner if Parliament had taken a vote.

But they said Damascus refused to do this, maintaining that other candidates could be discussed only if talks were first held on achieving national reconciliation and implementing political reforms.

Many hard line Christians in Lebanon fiercely oppose Franjeh because of his pro-Syrian views and hold him mainly responsible for the civil war which erupted when he was President in 1975.

The diplomats said Murphy made contact yesterday with the State Department in Washington and with Lebanese leaders who have good relations with the United States.

They also said Lebanese-born Saudi mediator Rafiq Hariri, who has good ties with both Christians and Muslims in Lebanon as well as with Syria, arrived in Damascus on Thursday to join efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis.

Hariri held a three-hour meeting with Murphy at the home of US Ambassador Edward Djerejian to review the situation, the diplomats said.

Syrian newspapers said today the election must be held on time and urged reconciliation talks to restore health to Lebanon.

Muslim leaders in Lebanon have been seeking to gain more power in a political system which at present gives greater clout to the Christian population.

Shamir evades questions on role in murder

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept 17, (Reuters): Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, once a leader of the Stern Gang that fought for Israeli independence in Palestine, evaded questions yesterday about his role in the murder of a Swedish peace mediator 40 years ago.

Sweden expressed shock and indignation this week at Israel's silence following admissions by two former Stern Gang leaders that they were involved in the killing of Middle East negotiator Count Folke Bernadotte, a member of the Swedish royal family, in 1948.

Shamir told reporters: "I don't believe I must enter into all the details of deeds that were or were not carried out in the period of the underground 40 years ago."

He added: "I don't believe I must enter into all the details of deeds that were or were not carried out in the period of the underground 40 years ago."

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'GCC will have to organise itself in a better way'

Sheikh Issa looks forward to peace, unity

By Ahmed Al Jarallah

THE Gulf war has ended and the people of this region have started adapting themselves to the new era of peace. Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Amir of Bahrain, said in an interview.

He also said that the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) states will have to organise themselves in a better and stronger manner now.

"Unifying internal affairs, economic and political forces will enable us to march forward. We have already passed a dangerous turning point in the Iran-Iraq war with the news of peace," he said.

"We in Bahrain practised our true principles concerning this war. Our brothers in Iraq felt that we are a state with principles, in spite of the fact that the price was expensive. But this price had to be paid for keeping and practising our principles. We thank the brothers of Iraq for understanding our position, which was meant only to strengthen Arab unity," he said.

Moral power

"We also wanted this to reflect itself on the relations between Iraq and the states of the region — away from all tensions. Iraq while rejoicing in its victory, will be a parallel force for the GCC states. The important issue here

is that we should feel that we are capable of becoming a united force in the face of other world blocs," Sheikh Issa said.

Discussing the affairs of the GCC states, the Amir of Bahrain, said that during the next GCC summit meeting in December, "we will sort out unsolved issues between the GCC member states in a spirit of brotherhood, truth and tranquility."

"The rearrangement of the Gulf home and the creation of a moral power among the GCC member states means the creation of a strong economic alliance, and it will also mean that we become an international political and moral force that will march ahead collectively with confidence and ability," he said.

Effective

"The world of today is a world of interest-oriented alliances. We here in the GCC states with the economic power that we own, need nothing more than organisation," he said.

"The GCC states, through an efficient organisation of what they have of economic and political force, can move in the world arena in a more positive and effective way."

Sheikh Issa said the recent visit to Qatar by Bahrain's crown prince was designed to increase cordial and brotherly relations



Sheikh Issa

between the states. Direct meetings usually strengthen bilateral relations, he added.

Bahrain, while preparing to host the next GCC summit in December this year, should

provide an atmosphere conducive towards achieving good results from this meeting, he said.

"We want the December summit to become the meeting that strongly pushes forward the

GCC alliance, through frankness among members that should help to organise the Gulf home in a better way," he said.

Confident

Discussing the forthcoming visit of HH the Amir of Kuwait to the United Nations as a leader of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), Sheikh Issa said: "While looking to the activities of the Amir of Kuwait in the international arena, we are confident that he is capable of reflecting the good features of the Islamic countries in addition to the Arab and Gulf countries."

"It is a good tradition and one that we hope will be repeated often in the future. We may ask the chairman of the GCC states, who annually chairs the state members, to go every year to the UN and deliver a speech on behalf of the GCC states — exactly as the Amir of Kuwait is going to do on behalf of the Islamic countries," Sheikh Issa said.

"The Amir of Kuwait will thus be laying the foundation of a good tradition that we all should utilise in other events," he said.

Sheikh Issa concluded by expressing the hope that the GCC summit will be a golden opportunity to discard all sensitivities between all countries in this region and bring about tranquility and brotherly love among the people of this region.

Defence minister praises Egyptian-Kuwaiti relations

CAIRO, Sept 17, (KUNA): Kuwait Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed praised Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations and bilateral co-operation, especially in the military field.

In an interview with the Egyptian newspaper "Akhbar Al Youm," published here today, Sheikh Nawaf said, Egyptian arms are of high quality and are quite appropriate for Kuwait's environment and circumstances.

Kuwait, which has always been keen on peace and good neighbourly relations, also has the right to build up strong defensive and deterrent military power, he said.

The Kuwaiti official reiterated his country's firm stand against allowing military bases on its land though necessary assistance has been given to United Nations' forces who are monitoring the ceasefire in the Gulf.

The minister also expressed admiration for Egyptian Leader Hosni Mubarak and said he appreciates the Egyptian people's help in building Kuwait.



Sheikh Nawaf

The recent Kuwaiti purchase of arms from Egypt is evidence of the extent of the countries' bilateral military co-operation, Sheikh Nawaf said. The Kuwaiti soldier is able to use all types of arms from various sources due to excellent training, he added.

The minister refuted reports

that Kuwait is turning into an offensive country, saying that the world knows that "it is not so and will never be so."

Kuwait has no territorial aspirations in any country, but enjoys its right as a sovereign state to develop its military potential as a defensive and deterrent tool, Sheikh Nawaf underlined.

Obstacles

He noted he will visit Cairo sometime before the end of this year at the invitation of Egyptian Defence Minister Abdel Halim Abu Ghazaleh. The date of the visit will be set soon, he said.

Discussing the tasks of the Peninsula Shield Force, Sheikh Nawaf said it is a military unit from GCC states to be immediately deployed should the need arise.

Commenting on the Iraqi-Iranian peace talks, the minister noted that the obstacles being encountered by negotiators are normal. He said Kuwait is supporting the peace process in co-operation with other countries.

GCC conference will focus on Arab unity, minister says

MINISTER of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashid was quoted yesterday as saying that the forthcoming GCC Summit Conference will set new priorities for the joint Gulf Arab work in the light of the peace prospects in the region.

He told local daily that in the Manama summit in November the six leaders of the Gulf Co-operation Council member states will work to bolster GCC unity and review results of previous actions.

Rashed added that the GCC member states have followed the Iraqi-Iranian negotiations and joined the rest of the Arab world in pushing the negotiations towards a comprehensive, just peace.

The minister added that the long Gulf war seriously affected the region's economy and social development.

Therefore, during the summit the council states will study the

current situation against the background of peace.

After overcoming the difficulties caused by the war, the Gulf states now want to live in peace with Iran, he said.

The minister reiterated that the GCC is not directed against any interests and will never interfere in any other country's affairs.

Campaign

The GCC's efforts to mediate peace in the region indicate its firm resolve to boost Arab and Islamic co-operation and ensure stability and security in the world, he said.

The ceasefire will help resolve issues which were difficult to handle during the Gulf war. It will also speed up other GCC affairs such as unification of regulations, passports and the Gulf currencies, the Kuwaiti official said.

The minister also discussed the

Western media's campaign against Iraq and their false accusations that Iraq used chemical gas against the Kurds. Any reference to the incidents in north Iraq is an unacceptable interference in Iraq's internal affairs, he said.

The minister also said that the anti-Iraq campaign, Al Rashid said, their tactics indicate the Zionists fear of Iraq's military might built up during the war years, he said.

Al Rashid also said that Arabs must urge the world to recognise the Palestinians' right to self-determination and to an independent state with the PLO as their sole legitimate representative.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat's visit this week to the European Parliament was an important turning point which may help Europe participate more effectively in settling the Palestinian question, the minister said.

Presence of families urged

HASHEM TAQI, director of the Kuwaiti Handicapped Welfare Society, has invited the parents and families of handicapped children under the care of the society to join them during holidays.

Taqi stressed the importance of warm, loving family relations in the lives of these children. The society takes good care of the children, but the presence and interest of their families is crucial, he added.

Workers in the field of handicapped welfare point out that such children are greatly influenced by their home environment, despite the care they receive at the society.

The presence of their families gives the children more peace of mind and encourages them to fight for life, which in turn leads to a more positive response to treatment by the society.

Health services poor: residents

A LOCAL daily interviewed a number of residents to obtain their opinions on health services in Kuwait.

Most complained of long waiting periods before being able to see a doctor and said health centres are almost without doctors at noon and in the evenings.

Some residents said they preferred private hospitals to clinics because services are comparatively better and patients receive specialised attention.

There is obvious negligence at the health centres, according to some residents. They called on officials to conduct surprise inspections of hospitals during the nightshifts.

Hassan Abu Al Hassan said that there is abnormal delay in getting appointments. It took three months to get a dental appointment, he said. He asked

why clinics stop receiving patients after 9.00 pm when they are crowded at peak hours. He also suggested an increase in the number of doctors at clinics and hospitals.

Diagnosis

Saleh Al Amir said he is astonished by what goes on at hospitals and clinics. He said residents suffer from inaccurate diagnosis by doctors who only rely on questioning their patients instead of proper examinations.

He cited the example of his son who was told by the doctor that he should undergo immediate surgery. Consultations with other doctors proved the diagnosis wrong.

The large number of patients at a doctor's office is one cause of inaccurate diagnosis, he said. The Ministry of Health should increase the number of doctors

and to enforce strict regulations on them.

Saleh Al Mousawi said that problems and complaints are caused by a lack of health awareness among residents. He also said that free treatment provided by the government is one of the reasons residents take such services for granted. He called upon the media to co-ordinate their efforts in spreading health awareness among residents.

Awareness

Several residents complained that telephone lines at hospitals and other health centres are always busy and employees taking calls are extremely rude.

They also said complaint boxes at hospitals and health establishments are closed most of the time. Influence (wastah) is needed to obtain any type of medical service, they added.

ISP board elections to be held on Sept 23

By Ashraf Shad

RELIABLE sources told the Arab Times that elections for the two parents' representative on the board of governors and the 16-member Parents Council for the International School of Pakistan will be held on Sept 23 as scheduled and will not be postponed.

According to the source, a condition regarding the eligibility of the voters has been waived and they will not have to show the receipt for the tuition fee of students for the current semester. The sponsor of the school had strongly objected to this condition.

A source close to the management said that a new pay scale for the school teachers has been introduced. The new pay scale would raise teachers' salaries from 10 to 15 per cent. The tuition fees have also been increased.

It was learnt that after the nomination date expired, only eight people filed their nomination papers for the 16-member Parents Council. Four candidates will be vying for two posts of the parents' representatives on the ISP board.

An active group of parents, has announced plans to boycott the elections because they disagree with certain election procedures.

The Pakistan embassy has also proposed that its government send an education attaché who will exclusively handle the educational problems of the Pakistani community in Kuwait.

Ration card renewal

THE Ministry of Commerce and Industry announced yesterday that it will renew all ration cards as of Oct 1 till Dec 31 at the distribution outlets during evening hours and at the ministry offices in the morning.

Card holders should consult with distribution centres in the areas they belong to to renew their cards, the Ministry said.

Customers complain about electricity bills

By Lima Al Khalafawi

CONSUMERS are frequently inconvenienced by the Ministry of Electricity and Water's delay in preparing electricity bills and over-billing.

Recently, a consumer in the Abhassiya area was billed KD 3,999 as outstanding balance for three years. Another customer received his bill after 17 months.

The first customer had to visit the electricity office twice before he could get the bill corrected. The amount due from the customer was actually only KD 70.

A source at the Consumers Services Department at the ministry said that mistakes in the bills are due to computer error or faulty electric meters.

The delay in providing bills is the consumer's fault, the source said. Electricity bills are sent to consumers one week after they have paid a KD 100 security deposit for the electricity connection. "The bills are sent in time, but due to the absence of the house owner or the watchman these bills are received late," he said.

In response, the second customer said: "The explanation given by the ministry for the delay in receiving bills is not true. I had been continuously going to the electricity office in Abhassiya to get the bills because I was afraid the ministry may cut my electricity line for non-payment."

"But whenever I visited, the officials said that the bill has not been prepared — come next week. The watchman of the building also tried to get the bill without success," he said.

The consumer also said that the ministry blames the users to cover up incompetence.

The department said that such complaints frequently occur, but officials at any of the residential areas are ready to solve the problem within three days.

Bills are prepared on an average basis and consumers can pay the amount in 10 instalments.

If the consumer pays either less or more than the actual amount it is adjusted in next year's bill.

The entire outstanding amount is adjusted only when a customer asks the ministry to cut the electricity line.

Building law may be revised

THE Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Mohammed Al Rifai, has said that Kuwait Municipality authorities are reconsidering the present building law, upon the orders of the Council of Ministers.

The law is being studied in co-operation with other relevant authorities such as the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, the Kuwait Engineers' Society and the Chamber of Commerce. The new system of building will be issued shortly, he said.

Meanwhile, the National Industries Co. (NIC) will be allowed to continue running its two battery and detergent factories in the Rai area, despite a decision to transfer the factories to the Sabhan area, Al Rifai said. The decision to move the factories was originally made a few years ago because of the air pollution caused by the two plants. However, the NIC has now reduced the pollution levels, he said.

The Municipal Affairs Committee also took into consideration the high cost of transferring the plants to another area, he said.

Iraq rejects request for UN inquiry

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 17, (Agencies): Iraq has refused to receive a UN team to investigate allegations that it used outlawed poison gas against its Kurdish minority.

Iraqi Acting Ambassador Ali Mahmoud Sumaida delivered his government's formal rejection last night to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"The response was negative," Sumaida told reporters after his meeting. "We declined to receive such a mission because there is no basis for evidence (for such a mission)."

He said reports by a Turkish team of experts and the Turkish Red Crescent did not provide sufficient evidence to warrant dispatching a team of investigators.

Sumaida said that during his meeting with the UN chief he also quoted a statement made on Thursday by Iraq's defence minister that it "was impossible to use such a weapon in a small enclave of land."

Journalists

Asked whether Iraq now considered the matter closed, Sumaida replied: "I think so. It is closed."

He said the secretary-general will convey Iraq's response to the countries that requested the

investigation.

At least a dozen nations, including the United States, Britain and Nordic countries had urged the secretary-general to dispatch a team to investigate the charges.

Iraq has said, however, that foreign journalists are welcome to investigate, although the United Nations is not welcome.

There was no immediate response from the secretary-general. The United Nations respects the sovereignty of its members, however, and it is unlikely the world organisation will dispatch an investigatory team without co-operation from the host country.

Divert

Meanwhile, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) yesterday joined Baghdad's friends protesting the American allegations.

An editorial by the political editor of the PLO News Agency WAFA yesterday evening described the accusations as part of a campaign inspired by Israel and designed to divert attention from Israeli acts in Arab territories it occupies.

The US administration and Congress would do better ... to debate Israel's daily terrorism of the last 10 months against the

Palestinians," it said.

"Iraq was right when it commented that it could only describe the US Congress as the Zionist congress," it added.

Many Kurds have fled from Iraq to Turkey, but the Ankara government, which depends on Iraq for oil, has asserted that its doctors have not found evidence of chemical warfare among Iraqi Kurdish refugees.

Denounced

Meanwhile, foreign correspondents were taken to the heart of Kurdistan yesterday where pro-government Kurds denounced Kurdish rebels.

The local Kurds denied that Iraq used poison gas against them, while accusing Iraq of doing it, and belittled the rebels who fled to Turkey last month.

The Iraqi government, infuriated by mounting Western charges that it used poison gas to crush the insurgents, mounted a one-day trip for journalists to show that the accusations were baseless.

Journalists from around the world were flown by jetliner yesterday from Baghdad to the oil centre of Kirkuk. There they boarded Soviet Mi-8 helicopters and flew to Sulaymaniyah, then on to Mosul by dusk. There was also a side trip by bus to meet

amnestied Kurdish refugees in Arbat, near Sulaymaniyah.

Camp officials said that more than 4,200 Kurds had returned to the Arbat Centre, about 35 km (56 miles) from the border with Iran, to take advantage of the amnesty the Iraqi government announced last week.

The government has said previously that more than 11,500 Kurds have sought amnesty.

Woman donates KD 400,000

AN AUTHORITATIVE source at the African Muslims Committee said yesterday that a Kuwaiti woman, who wants to remain anonymous, donated KD 400,000 for charity.

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EVENTS

Going Places Ramachandran basks in critical glory

KUWAIT-BASED businessman turned Malayalam film producer M.M. Ramachandran is celebrating the success of his maiden venture, *Vaishali*, one of two big budget films made in Kerala in recent years. The other is 1921, costing over Indian Rs. 1 crore.

Vaishali, made at a cost of Rs. 75 lakhs, will have its Gulf premier in Dubai later this month. Ramachandran expects it to be released in Kuwait by the end of the year. The timing of its Kuwait release depends on when the distributors buy the film for this market, he said.

Indian film critics have gone ga-ga over *Vaishali*, describing it as a "classic, fairy tale." Another critic said it was "the kind of film that forces a critic to suspend his critical faculties and allow himself to be awed by the creative audacity of a band of film-makers."

Some of the best known names of the Malayalam film industry were roped in by Ramachandran to launch his first film. He says, he took a "calculated risk" like a seasoned businessman and has every reason to gloat over critical acclaim the film is receiving. Critics have lauded M.T. Vasudevan Nair for his script, screenplay and dialogue; director Bharatan, cameraman Madhu Ambat, lyricist O.N.V. Kurup and music director Ravi of Bombay.

The film is based on an episode from the Indian epic, Mahabharata. It revolves around the "compulsions of statecraft and the way in which vested interests manipulate the rules."

Nair also exploits the "underlying possibilities evoked by teenage romance."



Sanjay and Suparna in *Vaishali*.

It is about a king who has been asked by his guru (spiritual guide) to bring a virgin ascetic to perform special prayers for rain. The search ends in an ashram (hermitage) where Rishyashringa lives in natural surroundings. Because the ascetic is reluctant to come, the king sends *Vaishali*, a beautiful woman, to seduce him with her charm to leave the ashram. *Vaishali* accomplishes the task but also falls madly in love with the ascetic.

Despite being based on a 5000 year-old story, critics say that the theme is topical and rings true with its "muted

references to nepotism, corruption, court intrigues," translated as political corruption in modern India, and treachery.

The film features fresh faces. Suparna Anand, a Punjabi girl from Delhi and Sanjay Mitra, a Bengali, play the lead. Others in the cast are Geeta, Jayalalitha, Nedumudi Veou and Babu Antony.

Ramachandran has already begun plans for his next venture and has signed Sathyan Anthikad to direct the untitled film which will also be made in Malayalam.

FA

A woman of today

YOU may have seen her face on a hundred magazine covers, admired her candor in a newspaper interview or had the good fortune to view her sparkling wit on television or acting in a film. She is Paulina Porizkova, may well be the number one model in the world ... and a future cinema star.

When she signed a recent contract with Estee Lauder, the international cosmetic company to be their exclusive model and spokesperson, she added still another gem to an already sparkling career.

But what is the real Paulina like... off-camera, relaxing at home? "Normal, very normal," she says with a slight Czechoslovakian accent and a ready smile. "I love being at home, whenever possible, where I can have a little privacy. Not that I don't enjoy being recognised ... it comes in handy

at hotels and airports ... but it also can be an intrusion."

One of the best things about her contract with Estee Lauder, she says, is that it allows her to do the "fun things" she really enjoys, more often. Specifically? Writing stories, poetry, perhaps even a novel. "I don't necessarily want to become a famous writer, but I'd like to be a serious writer. I don't even care how long it takes to write something good. I just enjoy writing."

And, as you may have guessed, she's an artist too. "I love to draw and paint. I have several different styles and mediums," she admits. "I work in acrylics, oils, watercolours and pastels. A self-portrait? Why not?"

As Paulina sketches, it is easy to see why Estee Lauder chose her to represent their worldwide image ... the woman of today.



Estee Lauder's new model Paulina Porizkova relaxing at home.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 3.30 Holy Quran
- 3.35 Heidi: cartoon serial
- 4.10 World News via Satellite
- 4.40 Fursan Al Hikmah: "Da'wah Illalah" Arabic serial, with Muhammad Daffarawi, Midhat Saleh, Hamza Shimi
- 5.40 Songs and Music
- 6.30 Documentary
- 7.05 Agricultural Magazine: weekly programme on farming in Kuwait.
- 8.00 Variety Show
- 8.15 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nahd
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Al Sharah Maksour: Arabic serial, starring Hassan Yusuf, Nawal Al Futouh, Mustafa Fahmi, Osama Abbas
- 10.50 Al Sout Al Jariha: local programme, hosted by Fatima Abdul Wahab. Kuwaiti performers Abdul Karim Abdul



Paul Reiser stars in *My Two Dads*, 9.30 pm, KTV 2.

- Qader, Sulaiman Al Mulla, Anwar Abdulla and Rashed Al Khidir will take part.
- 12.05 News Summary
- 12.10 World News via Satellite, followed by Holy Quran/Closedown.

KTV 2

- 1.30 Opening with Holy Quran
- 1.40 Cartoons

- 1.50 Olympic Games: highlights.
- 6.50 Daily bulletin in Games from Seoul.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 The Flying Doctors: "In the Rescue." While the town prepares for a beauty pageant two men steal drugs from the doctor's clinic.
- 9.30 My Two Dads: "Joey's Mother-in-Law." Michael's mother pays a visit and advises the two men on how to bring up a daughter.
- 10.00 Believe it or not.
- 10.30 Bestseller: "Fields of Fire." Part 2. The Englishman settles down and joins the army.
- 11.30 News summary/Magazine of Actualities/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum

DAILY: 5 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

Islamic Arts Museum

SAT — THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Qur'anic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Arabian Gulf St.

Tareq Rajab Museum SAT — THURS: 9 am to 12.00; 4 to 7 pm; FRIDAYS: 9 am to 1.00. Collection of Islamic art, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House

SAT — THURS: 9 am to 12.00; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

EDUCATION

Books & software show

SEPT. 24-28: British Council, Mansouriyah; 9 am - 12.30 pm; 5 - 8 pm: Computers and their Application, an exhibition of books and software. Selected titles on show. Organised by British Council in association with Kuwait Bookshops Company. All are welcome.

THEATRE

KLT

SEPT 20/21: KLT, Ahmadi. 7.30 pm. Auditions for annual pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk. Those interested can attend audition at the theatre. The group needs volunteers to help backstage.

Konkani Drama

OCT. 7: IAC, Funatees, 4 pm: Konkani drama entitled "Xim Vo Ximite?", featuring the Mendes Brothers. Entry passes available at Raja Stores.

Alice in Wonderland

SEPT. 23: Kuwait English School, Salwa, 10 am: Kuwait Players will audition children — ages eight to 12 — for eight roles in the musical fantasy, Alice in Wonderland. It will be performed in January next year.

SEPT 25/26: KES, Salwa, 7.30 pm: Audition for adults (14 roles) for Alice in Wonderland.

Those attending auditions — adults and children — are requested to call 564-0102 in advance.

MUSIC

Kuwait Singers

SEPT 18: Kuwait Singers start rehearsals for their winter concert on Sunday, 7.30 pm, and next Monday, at the Sunshine School, Salwa. New members particularly welcome.

Indian Ballet

SEPT 22: 7.00 pm, at IAC, Funatees: Narthana, a dance troupe led by Mohiniyattam exponent Mrs Pramela Suren-dran, will stage a ballet, Panchavadi, and Nrithasipras at its annual show, Nritholsav. Admission will be strictly limited; for free passes, call 4337608.

Guitar Recital

OCT 19: German guitarist and composer Wolfgang Candi will give a recital at the Kuwait Hilton. "Hymns of Eternity," one of Coodio's most significant compositions will be featured in his concert along with works by J.S. Bach and H. Villa-Lobos. Tickets are available from the Hilton lobby.

Ahmadi Music Society

SEPT 24: 7.30 pm, KLT, Ahmadi. Rehearsals commence for the Society's annual concert. Scheduled to be held on Dec 11, 12 and 13. Newcomers are welcome. For details Tel: 391-2384; 398-3964; 390-1782.

Country Western Musical

SEPT 27: Gala Night at KLT and ACT's annual Country Western Musical 7.30 pm at KLT, Ahmadi.

SEPT 28 and 29, eight shows, 8 pm.

SEPT 30: matinee at 5 pm.

For bookings call 5727558; 5712033; 5620332.

East meets West

OCT 6: IAC, 6.30 pm: "East meets West", a musical evening, by The Fams, Hindi, Punjabi, Malayalam, Tamil, Konkani, Bengali, Arabic and Western music. Lead vocalist: Susao Rego. For entry by passes Tel: 2409250; 4743948 or IAC — 3904817.

Beat Show

OCT 14: IAC, 3.30 pm: Kuwait Goan Beat Show: four hours of on-top music featuring six brass bands — City Limits, 5th Dimensions, Perfect Stranger, Stepping Stones, Next of Kin and Tnp Ranks. Organised by the Kuwait Goans.

SOCIAL

Kuwait Players

Poolside BBQ SEPT 21: Messilah Beach Hotel, 8 pm: Kuwait Players poolside BBQ. All prospective members and newcomers to Kuwait are welcome. Tickets — KD2 per person. For reservations Tel: 394-1572.

Varca Sporting Centre

SEPT 22: SAS Hotel's Tent, 8 pm: Varca Sporting Centre's third annual social evening. Music by Top Ranks and Stepping Stones. Highlights: Beauty Queen contest, ideal couple contest, fancy dress, games and Bingo. For reservations and details, contact Maqbool — 471-2900, Albert 241-0461, or James 5331940.

D'Aassai Association

OCT 7: Holy Family Cathedral, 8 pm: D'Aassai Association's 8th annual thanksgiving mass. All ex-students are welcome. For details phone Augustin — 574-6754 after 6 pm or Henry — 3291909 (am).

Kapilku/Fleasik

OCT 22: SAS Hotel's Tent, 6 pm: Kapilku and Fleasik will celebrate their seventh anniversary. For details phone Edna — 563-4200; Finrence — 243-9451; Jojo — 903-9593.

Contact

SEPT 24, SAS Hotel, 10.30 am: Contact Ladies Information Group meeting. Newcomers in Kuwait are particularly welcome. For details phone 487-4513 or 5388105.

Sounds Great Party

SEPT 29: Messilah Beach Hotel, 8 pm: Sounds Great group's "Welcome Back/Welcome to Kuwait" dance party. Music by Tnp Ranks and Juke Box band. Twist competition, and novelty prizes. For reservations and further details ring Ken Winstino or Adolf 5740256/7 or 5758870. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome.

Goan Fiesta 88

OCT 13: Messilah Beach Hotel, Habiba Ballroom: Goan Fiesta 88 to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Young Goan Association. Music by the Stepping Stones and Hurricane Alley. For details Tel: 481-3740.

HOTELS

At Messilah Beach

MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go".

At the Sheraton

RICCARDO: Italian cuisine; music by Sienna's Duo. Closed for lunch on Fridays.

AL HAMBRA: Suodays: Lebanese cuisine; Wednesdays: seafood night; Friday's buffet brunch. Entertainment by Marcus Band provide live entertainment.

HUNT ROOM: lunch and dinner rest., specialises in meat and fish dishes.

LE TARBOUCHE: daily lunch and dinner buffet featuring Arab cuisine. Thursdays: Arab world specialities; Fridays: buffet lunch and dinner.

COFFEE SHOP: international cuisine and daily specials: ideal for casual or business meetings.

At the Ramada

LEMIRAGENIGHT Club: Thursday night BBQ, full buffet; music by Al Arz Baod.

AL BENDAR coffee Shop: continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

AL GANDOUL GRILL GARDEN: 7 pm to midnight, features a selection of grilled specialities.

OPEN GARDEN: 7 pm to midnight; a selection of teas, coffees, and juices; Argulla water pipe available; videos shown on large screen every day.

FISH AND CHIPS Shop: 4 pm to 11 pm. Take away counter: 4 pm to 11 pm, Arabian sandwiches and snacks.

At the Meriden

VERSAILLES: seafood, grilled, lunch and dinner.

AL WAHA: Noodles promotion, until Sept 30. Thursday: Tnp's jam session, music, good and lively atmosphere.

SPORTS

Windsurfing Regatta

OCT 7: MBH Windsurfing Regatta. Open to men, women and teams. Entry forms available from Marine Centre (Tel: 5755960); Qabazard Marine (Tel: 5750442); Sultan Centre and Al Boom Marine (Tel: 4830570). For further details phone 5624111 ext 751/739.

Softball League

CALLING players — men and women — to join Kuwait International Softball League. Contact Steve Diemer — Tel: 531-5246 or Vic Mason Tel: 5728931. Ladies wishing to join the Ladies League call Rita Diemer — Tel: 5315246.

Boy's Own Club

OCT 22/23: Boy's Own Club will hold a seven-a-side under-17 football festival on the holiday declared to mark the Prophet's birthday. Interested teams can contact Milagres 3967446 or Joe 4813622.

Inter-Commercial Bowling League

SEPT 22, 300 Club, 6.30 pm: Men's Division: Far East Rest. vs Kay & Asso. Inc; Ports Public Authority vs Al Qabandi; Magnolia Ice Cream vs 300 Club.

SEPT 23: 300 Club, 1 pm: Men's Division — Phil Supreme vs Al Qabandi; Al Naqeeb & Khattar vs Satellite; Hatid Ligaya vs PPA.

Women's Division: 9 am: Magnolia vs Far East Rest.; Boodai Aviation vs Gad's Kay & Asso.

PBAK Grand Prix SEPT 23: 300 Club, 5.30 pm: Six game grand prix bowling tournament opens. First Group (24 bowlers) plays from 5.30 to 7.30 pm; second group (24 bowlers) plays from 8 to 10 pm.

SEPT 30: Third group (24 bowlers) will play from 5.30 to 7.30 pm.

Deadline for registration is Sept 21 at 300 Club. For further details phone Sarah Macarimbang — 484-3447.

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain (15 Radio Newseel)
- 30 Puccini
- 0100 News Summary
- Play of the Week: 4th Jacques and His Master; 11th Home; 18th Language Spoken Here; 25th Justice
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The Third Policeman (ex 25th T.S. Elliot Poems)
- 30 The Ken Bruce Show
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Prompts (ex 4th Trivia Test Match)
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 30 English Songsmiths (ex 18th and 25th Sportsweek)
- 45 Reflections

RADIO PROGRAMMES

- 50 Financial News
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Lyrics and Lyricists (ex 4th A-Z of Hollywood)
- 45 Letter from America
- 0600 Newsdesk
- 30 Jazz for the Asking (ex 4th Five Faces of Jazz)
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Our Own Correspondent
- 45 Words
- 50 Waveguide
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 The Pleasure's Yours
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Science in Action
- 40 (18th and 25th only) Sportsweek

- world
- 45 4th and 11th Whither Wisdom; 18th and 25th Sportsweek
- 1000 News Summary followed by Short Story
- 1500 Radio Newseel
- 15 (Cointer) Hall (ex 4th From the Proms; 11th Sport Aid)
- 30 (11th only) From the Proms
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The Cross and the Crescent (ex 25th Every Poem an Epitaph)
- 45 Letter from America
- 1700 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Jazz for the Asking (ex 4th Five Faces of Jazz; 11th Sport Aid)
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 Newsdesk
- 30 Raffles
- 1900 News Summary followed by 4th and 11th Play of the Week: (4th Jacques and his Master; 11th Home); 18th and 25th From Raj to Rajiv
- 45 (18th and 25th only) Sportsweek

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behereen Qaul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Gei Khayal Ek Geet
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Gei Kahani
- 2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

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Adnan Abdul Aziz Bldg., Palestine St., Mubarakia
Al Ghazwa Pharmacy
Kazemi Bldg., Khalid Bin Al Walid St., Shaq

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Sabah Pharmacy
Othman St., Nagra

Salimiya and Rumaihiya
Qortuba Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St.

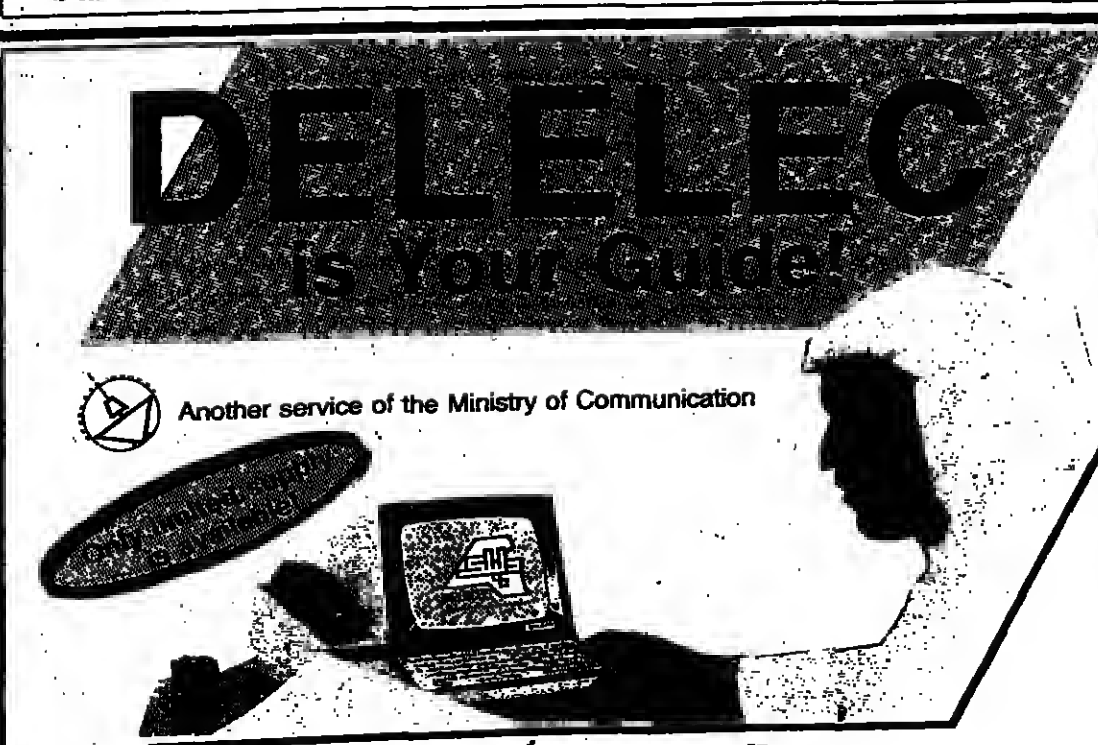
Fahaeel and Ahmadi
Al Baston Pharmacy
Qais Al Ghanem Bldg., Dabbus St., F'heel

Farwaniya
Al Taawon Pharmacy
Jara Comm. Centre, No. 3, Main St.

Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
New Market

PRAYERS

- Fajr 4.15 am
- Zuhr 11.42
- Asr 3.11 pm
- Maghreb 5.48
- Isha 7.06



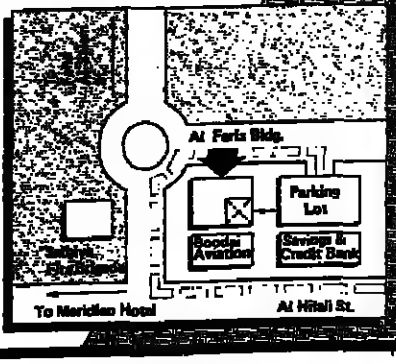
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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE trouble with progress is that it goes forward, not backward — Oscar Wilde, Irish-born playwright (1854-1900).

Lebanon's future in balance

By Michael Kull

BEIRUT. (Reuters): A last-chance presidential election next week and talks between Syria and the United States will decide whether Lebanon can haul itself out of chaos.

Lebanon's parliament failed last month to elect a successor to President Amin Gemayel, whose term ends on Sept. 23, when many Christian members stayed away and there was no quorum.

This cauldron of rival creeds could boil over into a new bloody phase in the 13-year civil war if the assembly fails again next Thursday on the eve of Gemayel's departure.

US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy arrived in Damascus on Tuesday to revive talks about Lebanon, a country where foreign powers call most of the shots.

Diplomats say Syria and the United States earlier agreed Damascus would make sure a president acceptable to all Lebanese factions was found in return for effective American recognition of its vital role in the region, including Lebanon.

Each was to tame extremist militias, but the United States failed to act against the hardline Christian Lebanese Forces.

Syria suddenly backed former President Suleiman Frangieh, a fierce opponent of the Lebanese Forces' commanding role in Christian areas. The Syrian-American accord collapsed.

Under Lebanon's unwritten confessional division of power dating back to 1943, the president must be Maronite Christian. But Syria is also backing Muslim demands for a greater say in government.

US State Department spokesman Charles Redman on Monday welcomed the decision to have a new election.

"We continue to believe that the Lebanese presidential election must proceed constitutionally and peacefully with a president dedicated to reconciliation and reform taking office on Sept. 23," he said.

A Lebanese official said Murphy was expected in Beirut to brief Gemayel on the outcome of his Damascus talks.

If no president is chosen, Gemayel is expected to form a Christian-led administration, prompting pro-Syrian Muslims and leftist groups to break away.

Many Lebanese fear this could suddenly increase tension, leading to renewed fighting and parti-

tion of the country.

Murphy's return to the region has already raised hopes of a settlement and he was expected to discuss the militia issue in Damascus, one analyst said.

House Speaker Hussein Husseini called next week's meeting at the old parliament building under Syrian control in downtown Beirut but Murphy's talks could change the venue.

The first session was held at the parliament's temporary home on the Green Line separating Christian east and Muslim west Beirut.

Analysts see the move, met with reservations by Christian deputies, as an element of Syrian pressure on the eve of the revived talks with the Americans.

Failure of the talks could lead to a repeat of last month's collapse, analysts said.

"If Murphy succeeds in his mission, Lebanon will have overcome one of its most dangerous ordeals since the civil war broke out 13 years ago. If not, hell will break loose," one analyst said.

Candidates

Apart from Frangieh, Army Commander General Michel Aoun and deputy Raymond Edde are among the leading candidates.

In addition to Syria, those watching developments with special interest include Israel, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the Palestinians and the Soviet Union.

Each hopes for a president who will back its policy in the region but none has the clout of Damascus.

Israel has repeatedly said it would not get involved in the election but at the same time would not like to see a Lebanese head of state who would play into Syria's hands.

Lebanese political sources said the choice of Frangieh would bring radical policy changes to the Middle East, with Israel possibly embarking on military action in south Lebanon.

The Soviet Union, Gulf countries notably Saudi Arabia, and other European states are working behind the scenes to avert a violent flare-up in Lebanon and partition, the sources added.

"The partition of Lebanon will lead to geopolitical changes and endanger peace in the Middle East in contradiction to the latest agreement between the two superpowers to end tension in world trouble spots," said one top government official.

"All parties know how far they can go in playing this game. There are limits which must not be broken, but if they are, no side can bear the consequences," he said.

Bush and Dukakis running dead-even

By Michael Conlon

CHICAGO. (Reuters): George Bush and Michael Dukakis are running dead-even in Illinois, Ohio and Michigan, three states where the 1988 presidential election could be decided.

Those states hold 67 of the 270 electoral votes needed to capture the White House. President Reagan won all three states in his two landslide election victories.

Polls in this Midwestern trio variously have given Democratic presidential candidate Dukakis or Republican rival Bush slim leads.

Party officials interviewed by Reuters in all three states say the Nov 8 election race is neck-and-neck.

High unemployment from shut-down industries and a sagging farm economy plague the region but a budding prosperity is appearing in some areas.

Desert

Republican and Democratic strategists seem to agree that Democrats who deserted their party to vote for Reagan in 1980 and 1984 probably will decide the victor this time as well.

Illinois has voted on the winning side in every presidential election this century except for two — Woodrow Wilson in 1916 and Jimmy Carter in 1976.

Ohio has been historically regarded as a big prize. Michigan is a one-time labour stronghold which Democrats have been unable to win back to their presidential camp since 1968.

Along with California, Texas and New Jersey — other major states which could go either way — the Midwestern trio have been courted eagerly by both Bush and Dukakis.

"Only California or Texas will get more attention than Illinois, and I'm not sure it's going to be a lot more," said Ed Murnane, executive director of the Bush campaign in Illinois.

"The main thrust of this campaign is going to be peace and prosperity — let's keep a good thing going," he said.

Lowest

"Unemployment is the lowest in 20 years. We've had some real successes in the state," he said, citing renewed industrial growth at several places.

Dukakis, who held a slim but undecided lead in Illinois in a recent Chicago Tribune poll, said during a stop in Chicago: "Illinois is a slice of America... the candidate who wins in Illinois is likely to win the elections."

Jim Ruvo, who has chaired Ohio's Democratic Party since 1982, said his state is "absolutely a dead heat" at the moment. A recent Columbus dispatch poll gave Bush a slight lead.

"I think the candidate who presents a vision of the economic future of the Midwest, how to integrate it with the rest of the country and make it competitive on a worldwide basis — that candidate is going to win Ohio," he said.

Dave Garick, communications director for Ohio Republicans, said: "What George Bush has to do is demonstrate a commitment to the very things he's been talking about — strong national defence, continued economic strength, creation of jobs..."

"The recovery was slower coming to Ohio than the rest of the country. We're still lagging but vastly improved over what it was," he said.

West Europe plans to clear Gulf of mines

Chances of Iraq-Iran war to resume remote

THE West European allies have begun discussing plans for a combined operational endeavour to clear the Gulf of mines, I understand.

Since the United States Navy is not well equipped for mine-sweeping and the European allies are anxious to prove their willingness to co-operate in regions outside the NATO area, this operation is almost certain to begin as soon as the peace negotiations between Iran and Iraq under United Nations auspices make more progress than they have up to now.

Despite the current difficulties, the likelihood that the war will resume is seen here as remote. Both sides are too exhausted. Nevertheless the allies are hesitating to begin mine-sweeping as long as the truce is as fragile as it currently seems to be.

The Iran-Iraq war, interestingly enough, also figured unusually high in the discussions of the thirteenth annual conference of the International Institute of Strategic Studies in Brighton. The reason was twofold.

Agreement

Firstly, there was general agreement that the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, have made much progress in the management of East-West relations. Therefore the possibility of a warlike confrontation at the central front in Europe has very much receded and there has been a remarkable change of the political climate between Washington and Moscow.

Even though it is still true that global stability will continue to depend for a very long time on the steady management of great power rivalries, regional powers and sub-national groups are and will continue to rock the structure by using force on each other. The wars of the present are wars in the Third World. It is a deplorable state of affairs, which

is unlikely to change because of the numerous regional conflicts which have remained unresolved. Too many borders continue to be contested, ethnic boundaries do not coincide with state boundaries and, in most cases, domestic instability are a contributing factor.

Currently the only international war is the Iran-Iraq war and it is coming to an end without changes in the boundaries, without there being a victory. The stalled peace negotiations are the best proof that neither side can dictate the terms of peace. If Iraq considers itself victorious, it is very much an asset hard to translate into concrete conditions.

One of the more promising aspects of the Iran-Iraq war were the efforts of the superpowers not to get involved in the war to the extent that it could have become a direct confrontation between them.

It can be read as an indication that while small states will have greater freedom to indulge in wars, they will not be able to count on their patrons for assistance, expect their intervention and their paying for the costs.

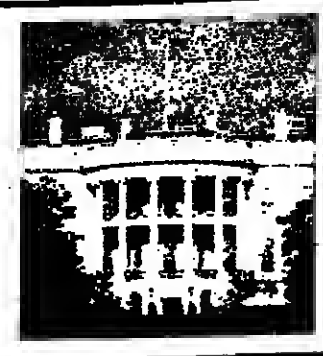
On the contrary, the Iran-Iraq war is an illustration of the indifference of the international community to small wars and of its willingness to let the belligerents stew in their own juices until they become exhausted and battle weary.

Bases

One reason for all this is that the declining importance of smaller countries as bases for the superpowers. Superpower status still depends on military might, but perhaps even more so on technological and economic accomplishments. It is a trend that clearly underlies General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's policies. Soviet willingness to withdraw from Afghanistan, close its naval base in Vietnam, a

Inside Washington

By Henry Brandon



desire to lower its commitments in Angola, Cuba and Ethiopia are also proof of that trend.

Instead, the direct and indirect use of outspace for military purposes is likely to increase in the coming years. It is already in use for the surveying of earth, for verifying agreements, for secure communications and for crisis, even war management. The technological competition in space may therefore become more important than its equivalent on earth.

Another problem that reduces the incentive to engage in wars is the realisation that governing occupied territories is proving to be more difficult than conquering them. Israel has learned that lesson in the West Bank and in Lebanon (the Syrians have learned a similar lesson in Lebanon). The Vietnamese have had a similar experience in Kampuchea and the South Africans in Namibia.

War

Nuclear war, fortunately, has become almost an absurdity, but chemical war has not, at least so far. There was broad agreement at the IISS meeting that the threat of future use of chemical weapons is one of the most important problems of the future and that the international community will have to come to grips with it before it is too late.

At the same time, it is also obvious that chemical warfare is for various reasons a more difficult problem to deal with for

strategic thinkers and weapons specialists than nuclear warfare because it is so easy and cheap to manufacture chemical weapons, to store them and to use them.

In World War I and II they were hardly used because retaliation would have been easy and because a cloud of gas set off by the explosion of an artillery shell could, under unfavourable wind conditions, be blown back into the front line of the user of chemical weapons. But now, with long-range ballistic missiles available — and some Third World countries have already acquired them — this kind of self-inflicted danger is avoidable.

Deal

Another new and important aspect that has forced itself on the agenda of the IISS, an institution which in the past has only dealt with the strategy of war and related issues of security policy, is how to deal with environmental conflicts.

There is a growing awareness of the deterioration of the environment. It is engendering more heat, more passion these days than, for instance, nuclear disarmament because it is being recognised as a very realistic threat to everybody's well-being.

It has a measurable impact on health, on the quality of life and the economies. Threats resulting from an anticipation of predicted environmental deterioration have had a profound impact on governments, on election campaigns, on domestic politics in

general. But it has also become an issue of international politics since the early 1970s.

There is, for instance, the bitter dispute between Canada and the United States over what is called "acid rain" being blown from American factories across the Canadian border killing trees and other vegetation and polluting lakes. There have been the huge oil spills caused by leaking tankers and the Chernobyl disaster that hlew nuclear-infested clouds into West Europe.

Destroying

Many industrial countries have been pursuing their industrialisation recklessly and without consideration for the environment. The Soviet Union and several Third World countries are not only in the process of destroying their own environment, but they are also seriously contributing to global damage, and since they are not subject to the corrective mechanisms of democratic protest, the prospects for improving the situation are remote.

Especially in countries where survival is the top priority, forest and plant life is being recklessly exploited without regard to the long term damage to civilisation. Most developing countries apply low or no standards of environmental protection to their industries.

Even if, say, the Western democracies adhered strictly to certain environmental standards — and they do only very inadequately — it is doubtful that it would make a great deal of difference, except in narrower, local terms, — since so much of the deterioration is global.

Differences

Unless some global standards can be imposed, environmental conflicts could lead to serious differences between states. More and more people, all over the globe, especially in countries where news media enjoy freedom, feel more threatened by environmental deterioration

than by the danger of war. It is not surprising that in a growing number of countries environmental issues have become a priority of policy and resource allocation.

The international issue in future will be how to deal with damage in regions in which pollution moves across frontiers and how to induce other participants, especially border states, to act in a regional context.

Then there are the growing number of environmental problems, such as the destruction of the ozone layer by chlorofluorocarbons or the heating up of the world climate as a result of continued burning of fossil fuels. People are increasingly aware of the dangers of environmental problems, especially since some of them are connected with the rise of cancer or other health hazards, and have led to demands, even irrational demands, that could lead governments to exert pressure on other governments to act on their protests.

Solutions

However solutions to global environmental issues are either extremely hard to come by or they are virtually impossible. The classical approach that was used to reduce the emission of chlorofluorocarbons, enshrined in the Montreal agreement of 1987, was a major achievement, but it is not easy to apply it to less limited substances for which substitutes can be found.

At any rate, the problems of environmental control are sinking into the consciousness of mankind and more attention will have to be given to them. It is a global war of a different kind and the weapons to combat it, even though less lethal in the immediate sense, are as yet in the earliest stage of development — they present a challenge not only for organisations such as the IISS, but, above all, for the United Nations.

Chinese leaders urge citizens to expose corruption

By Ann Scott Tyson

BEIJING: Chinese leaders are urging citizens to expose official corruption that has sullied the Communist Party's image and disrupted economic reform.

Thousands of reports of graft, bribery, embezzlement, smuggling, and blackmail are flooding in to more than 350 "corruption report centres" opened nationwide, according to China's state-run press. In Beijing operators manning a 24-hour "corruption hot line," set up by the year-old Ministry of Supervision, are fielding nearly 50 reports of official misdeeds a day.

The new anticorruption strategy signals Beijing's growing conviction that public "supervision" is needed to check the avarice rife in the party, government, and Army.

"The decadent practices of some party and government organs have developed so quickly and with such tremendous force that if we fail to solve them conscientiously, it will be disastrous in a few years' time," Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang warned.

"It is imperative... to quickly develop a supervisory mechanism. Otherwise, it will be difficult to carry out the reform," Zhao said. (Market-oriented reforms were launched in 1978 in an effort to spur economic growth.)

Grievances

The strategy is also designed to vent mounting popular grievances over the nation's tainted officialdom, which Beijing admits is damaging the reputation of the 47 million-member ruling party. Most Chinese view corruption as China's No. 1 problem, ranking it above double-digit inflation as a source of discontent, according to a government survey released this summer.

Despite clear popular enthusiasm for Beijing's latest anticorruption campaign, its success appears limited by the very lack of accountability that has fostered widespread official abuses in China. The party has given the Chinese public limited power to criticise officials, but not to punish them.

Corruption is worse today than at any time since the founding of the People's Republic in 1949, when Mao Tse-tung's Red Army defeated the graft-ridden regime of Nationalist General Chiang Kai-shek, Chinese officials say privately.

Recently, the party announced that 109,000 corrupt members were expelled or asked to quit in 1987 in the largest such housecleaning of recent years. But of those ousted, only 30 held posts above the county level.

Corruption is an ancient problem in China, encouraged by chronic shortages, a legal system subordinate to a single ruler,

and the tightly knit clan structure of traditional Chinese society. Chinese have always relied heavily on guanxi, or connections, to accomplish the most mundane tasks. Guanxi derives from a network of family and friends, and is enhanced by mutual favours and gift giving. Guanxi can open the back door, through which the adept Chinese can obtain virtually anything — from imported consumer goods to a passport for travel abroad or admission to an elite school.

In the 1950s, '60s, and '70s, when Maoist egalitarianism was at a peak, the use of guanxi remained common. But the climate was less favourable to a rampant rise in graft: Almost everyone was poor, conspicuous consumption was politically taboo, and China's Soviet-style central planning system offered few channels for an individual to amass illicit wealth.

But Mao's dogmatic puritanism began to give way in the 1980s, when Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping launched economic reforms that have partially dismantled the nation's central planning system and expanded the role of market forces.

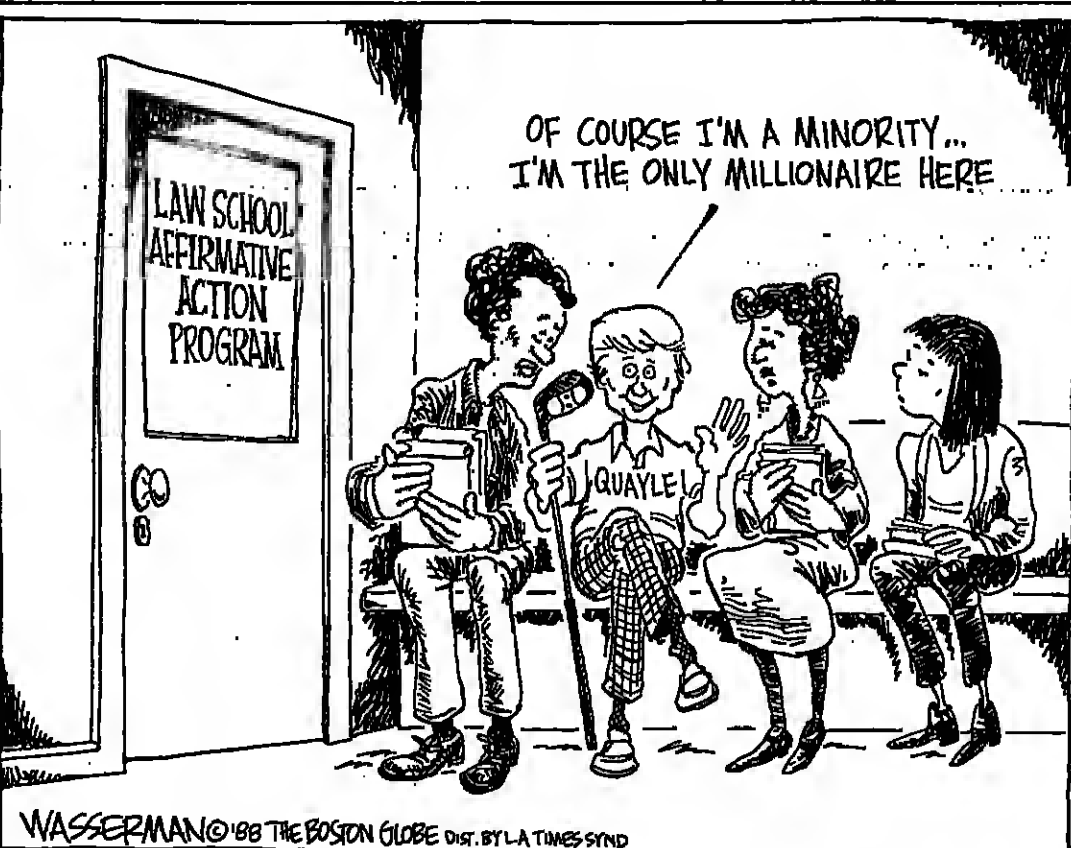
The new, mixed economic system that has emerged has "created a major hotbed for corruption within the party," wrote Luo Haigang, an expert on party malpractices, in the Peo-

ples Daily newspaper in June. For example, newly officials are moving on China's dual pricing system, whereby many goods have both fixed state prices and fluctuating market prices. The officials use their influence to hoard cheap, state-priced raw materials and then illegally resell them on the market for huge profits.

Such profiteering fuels inflation and deprives China's backward industrial enterprises of badly needed investment funds. "We call it the gray market," to borrow a term from the Soviet Union, a Chinese source said. "Those officials love shortages, and they don't want to see the shortages disappear."

Moreover, corruption now pays more than ever before. Officials are increasingly tempted by bribes from entrepreneurs to make decisions that would line their pockets instead of serving the public interest. Bribes of 10,000 yuan (\$2,700) are common. The state-run press has reported cases involving the embezzlement of nearly \$100,000 — an astronomical sum in a nation where city dwellers earn only \$250 a year on average.

China's new breed of graft is becoming more impersonal and systematic, as low-paid bureaucrats eager to profit from the nation's growing wealth exploit irrationalities in the hybrid, socialist-market economy.



Army stands aside as turmoil engulfs Burma

By Jose Katigbak

BANGKOK. (Reuters): The Burmese Army, regarded by foreign military analysts as one of the most efficient fighting forces in Asia, has retreated to the sidelines to await the outcome of the political turmoil convulsing Burma.

Diplomats and defence attaches in Rangoon and Bangkok said it appeared increasingly unlikely that troops, who largely withdrew to barracks five weeks ago, would obey the government if it ordered them to suppress opposition dissent again.

Massive street demonstrations have been going on in Rangoon daily over the past weeks to force the resignation of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP), whose quarter century rule led the country to the poorhouse.

Strikes in every important industry and service have paralysed the economy and Rangoon is in the grip of a food and fuel shortage.

Power

There is no doubt the 180,000-strong Burmese Army is the final arbiter of power. The question uppermost in the minds of diplomats is which way the Army will tilt.

Diplomats said unless the situation stabilised soon the Army could stage a coup to maintain the BSPP in control, keep power itself, or hand over to a civilian government after elections.

Indications were that the

besieged administration was seriously considering a transition of power to an interim government to oversee multi-party elections, they said.

"The feeling in the diplomatic community is that if the military takes over it will only be in a caretaker capacity until elections can be held," a Western diplomat said.

He said there was no sign of a split in the armed forces despite the defections to the opposition of small groups of Air Force and Navy servicemen in recent weeks.

Warn

On Wednesday an Army broadcast from Maymyo, the Defence Services Academy headquarters northeast of Mandalay, warned opposition forces struggling to unseat the BSPP against "trying to destroy the state by dividing the defence forces."

It said the military was actively fighting guerrillas despite the political turmoil.

The broadcast said that between Aug 5 and Sept 5 "when demonstrations were going on in the cities... (and) circumstances were confusing" Army troops engaged rebel forces 24 times, killing 47 guerrillas and capturing 11 for eight soldiers killed and 16 wounded.

Since Burma's independence from Britain in 1948, the Army has been fighting on several fronts about a dozen ethnic and political groups, including communists.

In a broadcast on Thursday, Radio Rangoon, virtually the

last major civilian organ still controlled by the BSPP, said unscrupulous people were spreading false reports "to divide the defence forces and create misunderstanding between the people and soldiers."

On the surface the Army stands squarely behind the BSPP. Most of its high-level commanders are BSPP members and recipients of party largesse. Many top government jobs are held by senior officers.

This has bred jealousy in the lower ranks and many of them are sympathetic to the people, diplomats said.

Army commander and Defence Minister General Saw Maung on Monday warned government opponents not to break up the defence forces because "then the state can lose its independence, and we, together with all the people, will have to face grave dangers that cannot be foreseen."

The last time the Army took action against anti-government demonstrators was between Aug 8 and 12, when diplomats reported at least 3,000 people killed.

The carnage forced the resignation of Sein Lwin after 18 days in power. Sein Lwin succeeded Ne Win in July after the 77-year-old strongman voluntarily stepped down in the face of massive street demonstrations calling for an end to his 26-year-old socialist rule.

Diplomats believe Ne Win remains the power behind the throne although Maung Maung is now officially the country's president and BSPP chairman.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1544 — Sweden's King Gustavus I forms alliance with France to counter Denmark's alliance with Holy Empire.
- 1739 — Peace of Belgrade between Holy Roman Emperor and Turkey, whereby Austria cedes Orsova, Belgrade and Serbia to Turkey.
- 1759 — French surrender Quebec, Canada, to British.
- 1860 — Italian troops under Count Camillo Cavour defeat Papal forces at Castelfidardo.
- 1913 — Bulgaria and Turkey sign treaty settling their frontiers in Thrace.
- 1916 — Greek Army surrenders to Germans at Kavala. Greece, in World War I, Russian offensive under Alexander Brusilov is checked by Germans.
- 1931 — Japan begins siege of Mukden, using bomber seaplanes, and occupies other strategic points in Manchuria.
- 1948 — Indonesian communists set up Soviet-style government in Java but are forced to withdraw.
- 1961 — UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, 56, is killed in air crash in Northern Rhodesia.
- 1967 — United States announces it will build anti-missile network to counter any attack by China. Explosives planted by communist terrorists destroy Nationalist China's embassy in Saigon.
- 1971 — Egypt and Israel exchange rocket fire across Suez Canal for first time since ceasefire 13 months earlier.
- 1973 — East Germany, West Germany and the Bahamas are admitted to United Nations.
- 1978 — Egypt's Foreign Minister Ibrahim Kamel and Ambassador to United States Ashraf Ghorbal resign in protest of Egypt's Camp David (US) agreement with Israel.
- 1979 — Radio Pakistan reports that former Afghanistan gunshots wound apparently suffered in palace shootout.
- 1987 — United States and Soviet Union reach "agreement in principle" on nuclear arms treaty, paving way for summit meeting.

Disclosing a world of lies and half-truths

By Peter Ackroyd

A TELEVISION reporter who recently helped to expose Manda Elzalde, the discoverer of a "lost" tribe in the Philippines, said of him that "he didn't look like a saviour to me. He looked sleazy."

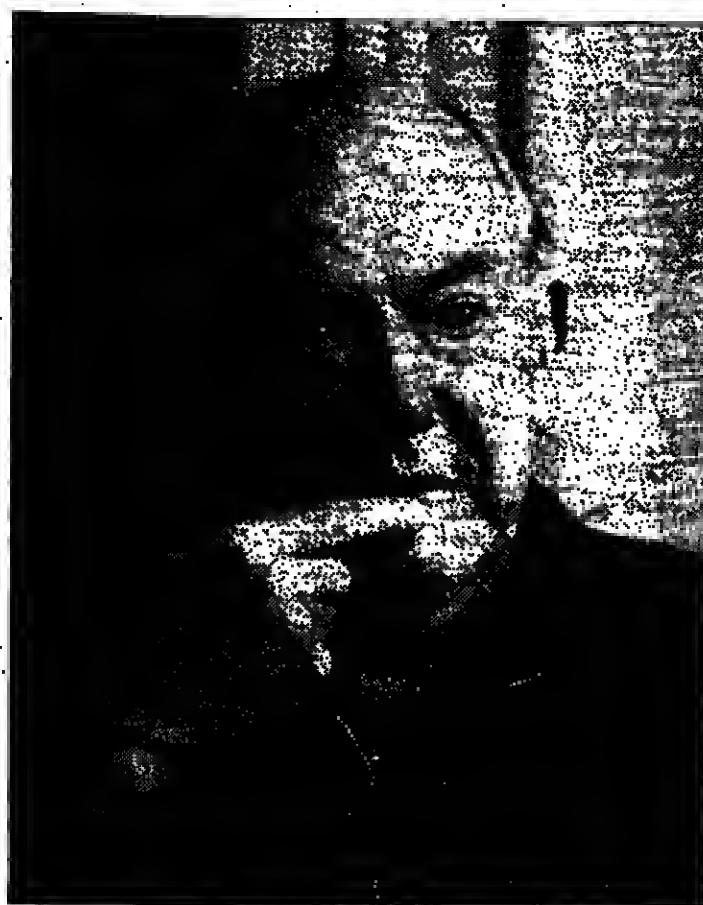
And here, in abbreviated form, we see the essence of Graham Greene's vision — for it is in his novels pre-eminently that the "sleazy" people carry the most significance, that the failures are the ones who reveal the true nature of human desires and aspirations.

This revelation often comes sooner rather than later. In *The Power and the Glory* Greene once declared that: "There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in — and, when that fatal door is opened, there generally issues a gust of decay or betrayal. So it is that *The Captain and the Enemy* opens in a schoolyard when Victor Baxter is 12 years old; he has been running from "his enemies", so early do the twin phantoms of violence and pursuit haunt him. But he is rescued by a friend of his father, who calls himself "the Captain" and who is quickly displayed as a confidence trickster of the more obvious sort.

He appears to have won the boy from his father in a game of backgammon, and now he takes him from the school in order to present him to Liza; this young woman has undergone an abortion and her subsequent longing for a child is now easily but mysteriously satisfied — despite Greene's sober tone, this is a mysterious world in which a child can be distributed as a prize in a game.

Removal
The removal from a hated school to a shabby basement in Camden Town animates the first section of Victor's autobiographical narrative, and in subsequent parts he slowly begins to unravel the truth about the Captain, about Liza and about the father who yielded him up so willingly.

He was a sudden rise of passage, but adult life appears to be no less of an enemy territory than the schoolyard, from which he was delivered. "I'm only a child of nature," his father says at one point, and in that cheap but always evocative phrase is disclosed an entire



Graham Greene published his first novel almost 60 years ago. His latest shows no real loss of power.

grey world of fear and flight. And Victor himself eventually becomes a newspaper reporter, a liar with his own "clever little bit of crookedness".

Greene once quoted from A.E.'s poem, "In the lost childhood of Judas, Christ was betrayed"; in fact, it might be more apposite to remark that in the lost childhood of Christ, Christ himself was trained to be a victim.

From the beginning Victor believes himself to be an "outsider", and nothing which subsequently happens to him can remedy that sinking feeling. Eventually he flies to Panama, where the Captain too has abandoned, and it is here that both men meet their destiny.

Greene's world has one pole directed towards reality, in other words, and the other towards fantasy. *The Captain and the Enemy*, is part thriller and part love story but its bold outlines and broad effects suggest that it is really not a novel, or an "entertainment", but, rather, a fable. Of course it

would be easy to describe it as a religious fable since the narrative is liberally sprinkled with theological references; easy, but mistaken. "Oh love," Liza says at one point. "They are always saying God loves us. If that's love I'd rather have a bit of kindness." This is a wonderful confession but, even if a kind of morbid monotheism remains Greene's hallmark, this book is less about religion than about the more mundane substitutes for it.

Essentially it discloses a world of lies and half-truths, where everyone avoids those "dangerous words which might have opened the door and let the truth in". Each character here has his own story, including the narrator, and the difficulty of discovering where reality ends and dissimulation begins is an essential component of the mystery at the heart of this book — for in many ways it is a baffling novel, written in a spare prose but containing religious as well as political

allusions, seeming to go nowhere in particular but all the time leading the reader forward to revelation.

The only antidote to the lies and the estrangement which characterize this sublimely desert seems to lie in love. "Why, it's quite a love story," someone tells Victor Baxter towards the end of this short book. And in a sense it is. Only love can save anyone in the endless sequence of betrayals which comprise the narrative — and those without love, like the narrator himself, are more to be pitied than a confidence trickster such as the Captain who somehow manages to transcend his dismal reality with his permanent and ultimately hopeless affection for Liza.

By the end of the book he has left her far behind — she is dying in a London hospital while he has fled to Panama where he is engaged in helping the Sandinistas against Somoza.

His own fate, and that of the narrator, might be dismissed as melodrama, and yet one should never underestimate the importance of what has sometimes been called "the circle of fire".

It is the most formidable characteristic of the English novel, and when it is combined with a kind of theatrical humour, melodrama might even be regarded as the key to the nature of the English sensibility.

There is not much humour here — if one has any complaint about the book, it must be that — but this seems to be deliberate calculation on the novelist's part. Victor has gone to Central America in search of his own childhood dream of escape hut, as he says of religion, that would be... a fairy story with an unlikely happy ending. The novelist's vision is grimmer and less easily satisfied. "To be a human being," he once wrote, "one has to drink the cup"; that is why *The Captain and the Enemy* closes with a suicide, a death, and an endless baffled search for "meaning".

Greene published his first novel almost 60 years ago and this, his twenty-sixth, shows no real loss of power.

The Captain and the Enemy by Graham Greene (Reinhardt Books, £10.95)

By Michael Levy

THERE ought to be a Society for the Deeper Appreciation of Tchaikovsky — the man no less than the musician. Given his vast popularity as a composer, and general awareness of his tormented life, the proposal may seem absurd. But his popularity is based on a mere handful of works in a rich and ranging oeuvre, and in itself probably fosters musical reluctance to recognise his true greatness.

The familiar figure of a shrinking, inverted neurotic caricatures the complex reality of someone gentle, courteous and highly literate, whose keen sensibility brought him not only pain but joy. A better image would be of the seasoned, cosmopolitan traveller who was fond of a drink among friends and laughed heartily over *The Pickwick Papers*.

Sensationalism

A new biography should provide fresh opportunities to focus on his sympathetic personality, even if it cannot offer fresh appreciation of his music. Alan Kendall appears to have taken on the attractive task more dutifully than enthusiastically. He, too, addresses the general reader in a tone often suggesting the reader is a not very bright schoolchild.

The book is admirably free from sentimentalism and sensationalism. It is also free from any characterisation of the period and Russian background, the numerous places

Tormented life of a great composer

Tchaikovsky visited and many of the people he met. Tchaikovsky's compulsive journeyings are charted in almost too conscientious detail. Lists of places and routes alternate with the lists of people, until at times the narrative moves with the haste of the White Rabbit torn between pursuit of Baedeker and a railway timetable.

When Tchaikovsky reaches Cambridge, to receive an honorary doctorate of music, some pause over this pleasant interlude would seem natural, especially for an English audience. Mr Kendall allots it half a sentence before whisking us on, leaving unmentioned Stanford, who instigated the honour, and Tchaikovsky's host, the famous historian, Maitland, whom he found charming.

With brevity as short as this for biographical matters, it is not surprising that the music flashes past largely unillumined. Of course, it is true that "The Queen of Spades" is "a very rewarding work", but which great work of art is not? And while the sole comment on the first symphony — that it "contains elements that surpass some of his later creations" — derives from one of Tchaikovsky's own, it seems a pity not to indicate the symphony's delicate, moody qualities.

The topic of Tchaikovsky's homosexuality, daunting to a biographer not least because it is so elusively documented, is dealt with calmly by Mr Kendall. It has its tragic relevance for the version of the circumstances of Tchaikovsky's death that he adopts, one largely accepted now though not available in the West before 1981. It is, briefly, that Tchaikovsky took poison, having been ordered to commit suicide by a "court of honour" which knew a certain Duke Stenbock-Fermor planned to denounce him to the Tsar for his attentions to the Duke's nephew.

Hypocrisy

That was only 10 years before British society turned on Oscar Wilde, so the hypocrisy and appalling cruelty involved are not arguments against this version. To me at least it seems, nevertheless, incredible. Yet the official version of Tchaikovsky's death — from cholera, after drinking unboiled water — had from the first puzzled contemporaries and caused rumours. Mr Kendall outlines the evidence about a sadly fascinating, partly mysterious affair. He might have quoted the shocked reaction of Tsar Alexander III to the composer's sudden death at the age of 53: "We have many dukes and barons but only one Tchaikovsky." It would be nice to think the comment glanced at Duke Stenbock-Fermor.



Tchaikovsky: official version of his death seems improbable

Among grieving contemporaries, Tolstoy wrote perceptively about bow Tchaikovsky's music "is continuing to move the hearts of millions of listeners through the world." That is the secret which really matters. It explains the appeal of the man as well as the composer, and should, in however faint a way, find some echo in those who write about him.

Tchaikovsky: a biography. By Alan Kendall. Bodley Head, £15.

Record advance for steamy novel

By Michael Conlon

CHICAGO (Reuters): A vivid imagination and five years of hard work have turned a Chicago woman into a literary wizard, and a wealthy one at that.

Elizabeth Gage, the first-time author of the steamy *A Glimpse of Stocking*, says she wrote the 749 pages on an old portable typewriter her parents gave her as a high school graduation present — "the kind reporters are carrying on and off planes in old movies". What turned heads in publishing circles was that she sold the novel with one letter to an agent who won her a \$1.4 million advance from Simon and Schuster, which says it is the highest price it has ever paid a first-time author.

Stocking traces the lives of two women in Hollywood. One is a budding actress who is raped by a studio head and gears her life to vengeance. The other works her way up as a prostitute.

Although they don't know it, the two women are sisters. The book appeared on May 1 and quickly went into a second printing. Gage's agent has been to Hollywood to talk about film rights, and a television mini-series is possible.

The advance and foreign publishing rights have amounted up to a tidy sum. Gage admits, with plans under way to publish in Britain, France, Japan, Brazil, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Sweden and Argentina. In real life, Gage is 40-year-old Susan Liberman. She lives a

quiet suburban Chicago life with her husband and 14-year-old daughter.

She is a petite, black-haired, pineapple-sweet lady of Hawaiian extraction far removed from the call-girl, the carnal Hollywood producer, and others who populate her book.

"I never did study writing," Gage said in an interview. "It's just a thing I always enjoyed doing, from the time I was in grade (primary) school I wrote some every day." Nor, she said, did she start out planning to do a book. "I did it just as a form of enjoyment for myself. I felt very serious about it but I also considered it to be a very private kind of thing, not a kind of thing I would share readily, not even with my husband."

Mixing fact and fiction about Peron

By Marjorie Agosin

JUAN PERON (1895-1974) is undoubtedly the most legendary as well as mythified historical figure in contemporary Latin American history. It is difficult, if not impossible, for Argentines to feel neutral about Peronism — an intense political movement that continues to dominate public life in Argentina. His presidency covered the years from 1946 to 1955 and 1973-74.

Tomas Eloy Martinez, a distinguished journalist and writer who teaches at the University of Maryland and writes in Buenos Aires, has produced an intricately complex and fascinating novel about this man.

The theme is direct and straightforward. It tells the story of Juan Peron as he prepares to return to Buenos Aires in 1973 after his 13-year exile in Madrid. The figure of Peron, a decrepit and confused dictator who returns to a country he is no longer familiar with and a people he no longer controls, is the heart of this complex novel.

Yet the clever use of historical facts, newspaper accounts, personal memoirs of Peron the leader, as well as the legend, brings out subtle complexities and sophisticated political analysis.

Eloy Martinez joins other Latin American masters who have used the figures of real dictators to give fictional shape to their literary discourses. Writers such as Gabriel Garcia Marquez in his *Autumn of the Patriarch* and Augusto Roa Bastos' *The Supreme Being* have managed to intertwine truth and fiction in order to portray the legendary figure venerated by millions of Argentines.

The legendary Evita, Peron's first wife, also appears through the voice of the aging and pathetic dictator: "Fate is unfair. Eva was in Madrid only a week and was showered with honours. I stayed 13 years and all I have to show for it is a street they named after me."

This paragraph exemplifies the tone of *The Peron Novel*, a mixture of bizarre tenderness and the macabre memoirs of this leader, now fated to govern a nation fascinated and divided by its own violent history, a leader who dies a year after his return to Buenos Aires.

The last sentence of the novel exemplifies to some extent the real situation of Peronism and Juan Peron: "Resurrect, big man! What's to stop you?" A best seller in Argentina, *The Peron Novel* promises to capture the sensibilities of North American readers and, above all, to bring a vivid picture of the cultural politics of Latin America — a region where fiction, reality, myth, and legend merge.

The Peron Novel, by Tomas Eloy Martinez. New York: Pantheon Books. 357 pp. \$18.95.

1988. The Christian Science Monitor.

Blowing the lid off the cocaine mafia

By S. Milne

THE cocaine trade is a multi-billion dollar business which has the economies of Florida, Colombia and several other Latin American states by the throat; which has brought up governments from Lima to the Bahamas; which effectively owns the Miami police department; and which uses contract killing on a scale which makes the Italian and US mafias seem almost gentlemanly.

Market
The Colombian cartel that controls the cocaine traffic to the United States is, in the words of the authors of *The Cocaine Wars*, "without doubt, the largest and the most profitable criminal conspiracy in the world." In Miami, lawyers, policemen, hoteliers, bankers and real estate dealers have grown fat on the drugs trade and their racist city has become the most violent in

'The rise of the cocaine trade over the last ten years is a triumph of entrepreneurial skills to bring laissez-faire tears to the eyes of Milton Friedman.'

America. As George Bush put it, cocaine has been "drowning the citizens of Florida in a sea of murders, violence, fear and blood-drenched narco-dollars."

The cocaine business is also a classic commodity market, currently suffering a little from the strain of overproduction. The rise of the cocaine trade over the last ten years is a triumph of entrepreneurial skill to bring laissez-faire tears to the eyes of Milton Friedman. With an eerie familiarity, the drugs trade's barons insist they are creating tens of thousands of jobs: "real jobs, not the type that governments always promise."

There is a book to be written about the narcotics business which could put the periodic healing of Western leaders in perspective.

The Cocaine Wars is not it. As far as Paul Eddy and his friends are concerned, the US-Colombian cocaine nexus is

just one hell of a good story and they play it for all it is worth.

A colossal cast of degenerate Cuban exiles, Colombian murderers and corrupt American officials are paraded before the reader in breathless succession as their part in the recent history of the cocaine business is recounted. At its best, it reads like a slightly disjointed thriller, at its worst like an edition of *Panorama* or a Sunday Times Insight special which never comes to an end.

It is also clearly aimed at an American audience and appears to want to pander to its prejudices. There is more than a touch too much credence given to claims of Nicaraguan involvement in cocaine transshipment and to State Department attempts to tie up the cocaine cartel with left-wing Colombian guerrillas on the basis of skimpy evidence.

Plenty of hard evidence is available to show that the cocaine mafia is in fact hand-in-

glove with the Colombian army's dirty war against the opposition.

In general, the US federal government is presented as the good guys — if sometimes slightly misguided good guys.

It is not until the penultimate chapter that the authors skate over the heart of the matter: that the main reason why Reagan's "War on Drugs" has been such a spectacular failure is that bits of his Administration and the CIA are up to their necks in the cocaine business, using it to funnel arms to the Nicaraguan Contras and for other political hobby horses.

So long as the American government maintains an ambivalent attitude to the cocaine trade in practice, the Western Hemisphere's biggest growth industry will continue to prosper.

The Cocaine Wars, by Paul Eddy, with Hugo Sabogal and Sara Walden (Century £14.95)

The proper study of mankind may well be man but the study of woman tends to get left out of the equation. A writer laments the lack of interest in women's diaries.

Opening Pandora's box

By Sarah Gristwood

"THE Journal — I have absolutely given up. I dare not keep a journal. I should always be trying to tell the truth."

— Katherine Mansfield. "I was married yesterday. I am 18 today, and I wish I was dead." — Lady X.

"Be damned careful not to leave this book about." — Jean Rhys.

Writing a first book is a daunting enterprise. But when the book is about women's diaries all personal insecurities are swallowed up in one objective question: why on earth has no one written this book before?

It seemed almost unbelievable at first that a source so rich, an idea so obvious, should have been left comparatively untapped and unexplored.

In the last few months and years, it is true, the lid of Pandora's box has been lifted. A growing number of individual diaries see the bookshop's light in fresh editions. A good deal of academic work has been done in the US, a summer school course is reputedly being taught in London this summer.

Field

But the fact remains. Look for the readily accessible, comparatively popular anthology or study and you look in vain. There is virtually nothing there. The men's diaries are. It's not that authors or publishers have charge of the Light Brigade. (Far from it, when you think of the number of fictitious or fake diaries that have been written over the years in an effort to cash in on peekaboo pleasures). The *Faber Book of Diaries* is merely the latest in a long and honourable list.

But the percentage of women diarists in any selection tends to illustrate a well established truth all over again. The proper study of mankind may well be man but the study of woman tends to get left out of the equation.

And what an extraordinary field of study women's diaries are, and how astonishingly available, once one's eyes have been opened to look.

From the ordinary modern bookshop you can find not only the obvious Anne Frank and Virginia Woolf but Alice James on her approaching death: "I have a delicious sense of wide open spaces close at hand."

And Annals Nin on her affair with Henry Miller: "Henry and I are one, lying soldered for four days. Not with bodies but with flames. God let me thank somebody. No drug could be more potent. Such a man."

Nella Last, in the enforced changes of World War II, makes a voyage of discovery within her marriage: "I looked at his (her husband's) placid, blank face and marvelled at the way he had managed so to dominate me for all our married life..."

And the former courtesan, Liane de Pougy: "Shall I draw my physical portrait? My nose? They say it's the marvel of marvels. Pretty little ears like shells. Hardly any grey hairs. One or two, to prove that I don't dye."

So much for the bookstore. Extend the search to a library and you find Beatrix Potter ("I foresee larks, contingent on the opening of Parliament") and Honora Lawrence, a colonial wife of the nineteenth century: "...With a sore heart I again whipped him. Once or twice he said, 'Mamma, I'm afraid of herod'."

A woman who watched the charge of the Light Brigade: "The horses, mostly dead, were all unsaddled, and the attitudes of some betokened extreme pain."

One poor cream-colour, with a bullet through his flank, lay dying, so patiently. "Long out of print, that one. An unpublished suffragette's prison diary, from the archives of the Museum of London: "What a vile thing this (force) feeding is. The horror of having six or seven wardresses going for one at once. This day has seemed an eternity."

And from America, the pioneer women: "The Indians kept circling... and hallooing... bullets came whizzing through the camp. None can know the horror of it, who have not been similarly situated."

These, admittedly, are among the more arcane fruits of a search which finally extended well beyond the bookshop and the local library. But more striking even than the strength of the material found is the thought of the nine-tenths of the iceberg still submerged.

The published diary of Nella Last, the wartime housewife, came out of the immense archives of the Mass Observation Project. What fish may still be swimming in that sea, to judge by the quality of the one that came out? How much material, already published, is simply lying forgotten, if you consider that a browse round another corner of the London Library (an invaluable source) turns up — just too late for publication — extracts from the diaries of Elinor Glyn, romantic novelist of Uger skin fame.

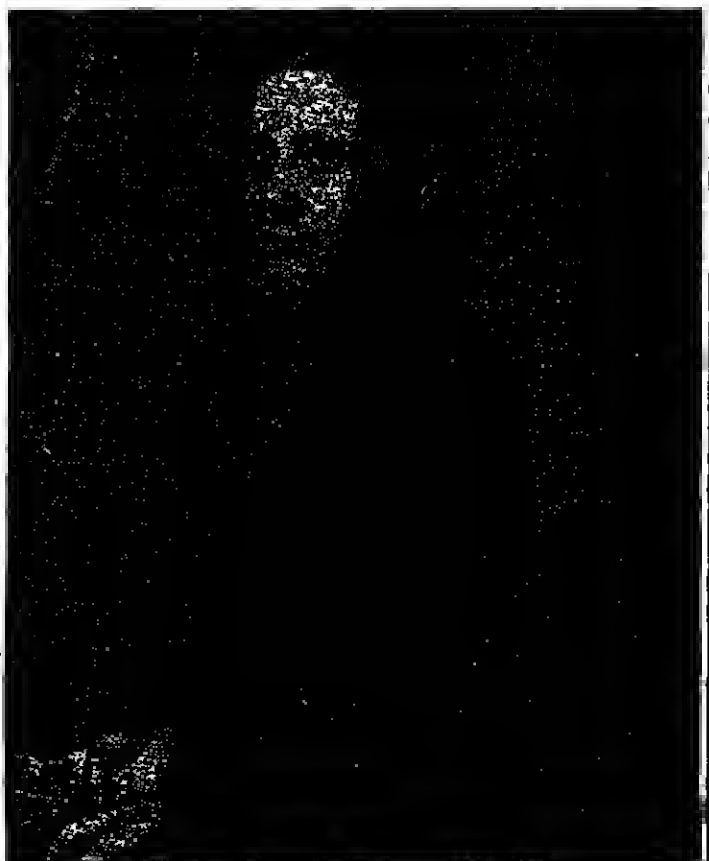
"Lady A, one of the sweetest of women, is deploring the defection of her second lover, who has just married a girl of 17. She is, however, a person of the old school and, except that she has grown thin, shows no sign."

Questions
That the search should go on, the submerged nine-tenths be explored, is important.

Important not primarily because of the occasional flamboyantly quotable entry but because of the unique opportunity diaries offer for fleshing out the history of women's sometimes ordinary lives.

The hopes, fears, aspirations, chores and duties. How much has changed over the centuries and how much has not, to judge by the evidence of this most private and presumably most truthful art form.

A lot of questions have been asked, and no doubt should be asked, about the supposedly unimpeachable truth of the diarist's. Does the diarist write,



Beatrix Potter: kept a diary

consciously or unconsciously, for an audience? And if so, like any good performer, wouldn't he or she rearrange facts a little to be sure of making a brave show? In the end there are no answers, unless you find one in what I personally came to regard as one of the greatest gifts of women's diaries: their quality of unexpectedness.

Beatrix Webb, in 1891, writes, "Octavia Hill objected to my being asked to preside at a meeting because I tried to float myself and my work through my personal influence on men; and the same impression had reached Florence Nightingale." Surely, ideas 80 years before their time? That same Florence Nightingale writes in a long drawn out cry of frustration and agony: "My present life is suicide." The Quaker reformer, Elizabeth Fry has to juggle vocation and family and knows which, on the whole, she'd rather be without.

A Canadian teenager in the 1870s has to find some way of reconciling the religious faith in which she has been brought up with the agonising death of a baby sister; her struggle is not essentially different from that of a drug-haunted American

cousin a century after.

The diaries are important — not least because of their importance to the diarists. Diarists, the more introspective of them, are fond of asking themselves why they write. In her autobiography, the film star, Mary Astor, certainly did.

"When people asked me: 'Why on earth did you keep a diary? How could you be so foolish?' It was much too complicated and too simple to explain. I kept a diary because my mother had kept one in identical ledger volumes."

"I wanted to talk about my own activities and my opinions of other people and the things they did. I wanted the assurance of individuality and reality and substance that the diary gave me."

The diary was a consolation and a reassurance. "By the time Astor wrote that, it had also become a monstrous liability, quoted in evidence against her in a divorce case and subsequently burned by court order. But it's quite a testimonial, even so."

Recording Angels by Sarah Gristwood is published by Harparr £12.95.

PEOPLE

Unknown Mother Teresa of Peru's slums

The handicapped children were the Great Unwanted... often left to die in the streets. But now a grey-haired Englishwoman has taken 14 of them into her heart and her home.

By Lynda Black

THEY call her affectionately "La Gringita," the "Englishwoman" in the slums of Peru. The grey-haired "Mother Teresa" who brings hope, health and love to the children nobody else wants.

just because they are handicapped. The police shut some away. Others wander the streets scavenging on rubbish tips. Some just give up hope and die by the roadside. It seemed as though nobody cared, until Anita Goulder came along and, one by one, took them to her heart and her home.



Some of the handicapped children take their first steps. Their smiling faces tell all.



Anita Goulder, the grey-haired 'La Gringita' who has dedicated her life to the unwanted children of Peru.

She now has no less than 14 children crowded into her three-roomed shanty house, which doesn't even have running water. It is crowded with the kids nobody wants... because Anita can never bear to turn one away. Under her care they blossom. Children who have never walked take their first steps. Now she wants warm-hearted people all over the world to raise money to build an orphanage in Piura, in remote region of the country. Then she can expand her one-woman crusade to bring more of the hopeless into her tender, loving care. So far, she has the land, which was given by the local council. And the British embassy has built a wall around it. Anita, now in her seventies, began her mission of mercy with a careful meeting. One day, on her way to the school at which she taught, Anita was stopped by a small handicapped boy who begged

to go home with her. She said she couldn't because there wasn't enough room. But her conscience would not let her rest. So she returned a few days later and found the child's body thrown on top of a rubbish tip. From that minute, Anita vowed never to turn away desperate and needy handicapped children. So her "family" has steadily grown. They all live happily in her cramped shanty house, just off the main street of Piura. At an age when many people are happy to put their feet up and relax, Anita keeps to a punishing schedule. She cleans the house and runs a school. She also gives vital drugs to the poor living in the nearby mountains, doing her rounds on a donkey. Although Anita shuns the limelight as she goes about her good works, her courage and fortitude have earned her a high honour back in Britain. She was awarded the distinguished 'Member of the British Empire' in the Queen's Honours List.

Following this, Anita has been promised help towards her dream orphanage by a British-based charity called Emergency Care for Children. Already they have sent male nurse Frank Mellon to help her. Someone who has already met Anita is nurse Ruth Ashe, from Godalming in Surrey, who was sent out by the charity to see how they could help. She says "Anita is a very spiritual woman, who lives her faith in a very practical way. She went out to Peru 30 years ago to teach and has not been back to England since. "She really is very special and completely selfless. In spite of her own plight she is very much aware of what is going on in other parts of the world. "When I told her that she may be able to get help from Emergency Care for Children, she said that she and the children had shelter and managed to get by, so could we please help others who are worse off. "I wanted to give her something before I returned to

England, so I gave her \$10 that I had in my wallet. She just burst into tears and thanked me. "She told me that she had been praying for money for a child who needed an operation and it had come to her. That's the way she exists. By faith." Ruth, aged 28, a trained nurse and mid-wife says: "Some of the things I witnessed in Piura were absolutely tragic. I saw handicapped children tied up and thrown food just like dogs. Many of them were kicked, hit and abused. One little boy, now in Anita's care, called Jorge, was found crawling on a tip. His jaw had been broken by his parents and his mouth filled with sand. "There is no state institution for the care of the mentally handicapped. Instead, the police stations have special rooms for them. Some have been there for years. It's such a sad situation. It really tears your heart. "In one police station I visited, there was a room with nine cots and an enclosed courtyard. In another there were two rooms used as a dormitory, and a netball pitch, used by the police, where the children could play during the day. "That's as far as state help goes. Otherwise they are left to scavenge on the waste tips around the town."

Conditions

Conditions are not much better within Anita's home, where every room and corridor is used to give the children a home. Ruth adds: "During the morning, along with blind teacher, Theresa, Anita runs a school for 40 local handicapped or poverty-stricken children. Despite the cramped conditions and limited resources, the school is listed with the Ministry of Education. "And when she's not feeding, teaching, or cleaning, Anita is up in the Sierra — the mountains. Ruth says: "Somehow, she manages to scrounge medicines from the local doctors and charities to administer them to the sick. During her last trip she brought back six children for operations at the local hospital. "Anita has an unspoken arrangement with the local hospital that if doctors perform

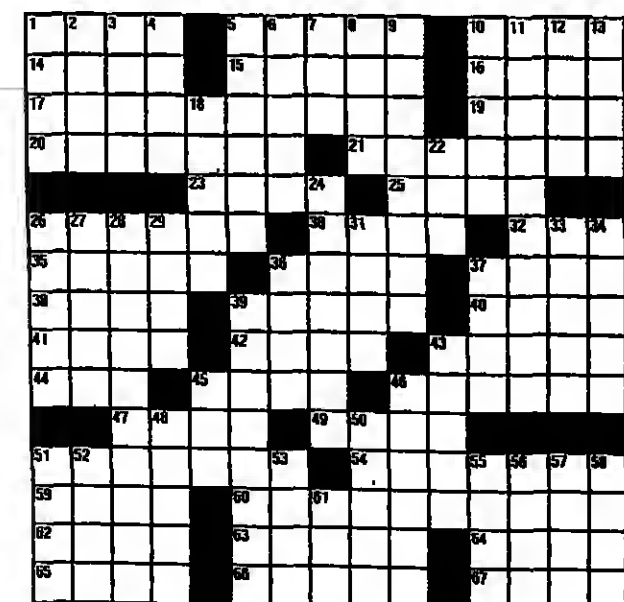


Anita bathes a little boy's ankle. She has no less than 14 children crowded into a three-roomed shanty house. It is crowded with children nobody wants.

operations that she will nurse the child back to health from the minute they leave the operating table. Now Anita and Frank need money if they are to carry on caring for Piura's unwanted children. Ruth adds: "At the moment Anita lives just off the main street. There is no running water and the main sewer has burst since my visit. It is very hot and humid in Piura and the stench is absolutely terrible. The town suffers from Bubonic Plague and the children's lives are at serious risk if they don't get somewhere better soon. I just don't know how they can tolerate it. "They have been desperately seeking new accommodation and they have at last found somewhere a little bigger where there are better facilities. The problem is that landlords want the money upfront to prove

that they have the money to pay. But that does not solve the long-term problems. Now the charity is appealing for people everywhere to raise \$3,000 needed to build an orphanage. Ruth explains: "The local council also provides wages for the cook, Rita, who is half-blind. So the townspeople do care about their children. But to understand why parents treat their children like they do, you really have to understand the conditions they live in. "Many have fled from the guerrilla war in the mountains, which has split up families. Families fleeing to the towns have nowhere to live so they build shanty huts on the outskirts. There is no running water or electricity and their homes are often built out of corrugated iron or cardboard. There is no sanitation, there's rubbish everywhere and, of course, disease.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 United —
 - 5 Miracles
 - 10 Batter holders
 - 14 Inveigle
 - 15 "To be —"
 - 16 Roasting device
 - 17 Dessert
 - 19 Church feature
 - 20 Typist's task
 - 21 Tell all
 - 23 Ocean, in Berlin
 - 25 Capitol topping
 - 26 Strikes again
 - 30 Second word of a fairy tale
 - 32 Bishop's jurisdiction
 - 35 Places for meats
 - 36 Merganser
 - 37 Earth used as a fertilizer
 - 38 — au Rhum
 - 39 Kind of pie
 - 40 Not theirs
 - 41 One of the Argonauts
 - 42 Latin word
 - 43 After-ski warmer
 - 44 Photo, item
 - 45 Arduous journey
 - 46 Etymologists' parents
 - 47 Period of penitence
 - 49 Group of poems
 - 51 Of a continent
 - 54 Won in the pool
 - 58 Trudge
 - 60 Dessert
 - 62 Prong
 - 63 Certain Latvians
 - 64 Norse god
 - 65 Copier
 - 66 Uneven
- DOWN
- 1 Ecclesiastical garments
 - 2 Dominant
 - 3 Smell —
 - 4 Special talent
 - 5 Desserts
 - 6 Expunge
 - 7 A Miller
 - 8 Threads
 - 9 Resign
 - 10 Sacred song
 - 11 Dessert
 - 12 Decree —
 - 13 Editor's note
 - 18 David and others
 - 22 Free electron
 - 24 Dessert
 - 26 Hood or Williams
 - 27 Circumvent
 - 28 Dessert
 - 29 Too bad!
 - 31 Carrots'
- companions
- 33 Slip
 - 34 Maxwell and Lancaster
 - 36 Dotted, in heraldry
 - 37 Debatable
 - 38 Small amount
 - 43 Sudra, for one
 - 45 Explosive, for short
 - 46 Dessert
 - 48 Keen
 - 50 Byron and Keats
 - 51 Nick and Nora's dog
 - 52 Err
 - 53 "Moonstruck" actress
 - 55 Macbeth
 - 56 Attack vigorously, with "in"
 - 57 Similar
 - 58 — clothing
 - 61 DDE's commend

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MAST GRASPS ALL
RUHR HUBERT FDA
SKYTERRIER GEM
MAE ESS CHAP
ARBOR TAMASHA
BEAR RDSS MANSE
ILS AINT LATHER
DISARMS PERSONA
EVERTS CENT USS
RETTIE CANS SNEE
HOLLAND TODDS
SHOT UNA EAR
TAU IRISHSETTER
ERN LENTEN EARL
WED IDEATE DOGS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
IN THE RIGHT HANDS

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A Q 5 4
♥ K 4
♦ 9 8 6 2
♣ A 7 6

WEST
♠ 9 8 3
♥ 10 7 6 2
♦ 10 3
♣ K J 10 2

EAST
♠ 7 6
♥ A 9 5 3
♦ A J 4
♣ Q 9 4 3

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 2
♥ Q J 8
♦ K Q 7 5
♣ 8 5

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠
Winning tricks with high cards is easy enough. It's not always as simple to spot the right hand in which to win the trick.

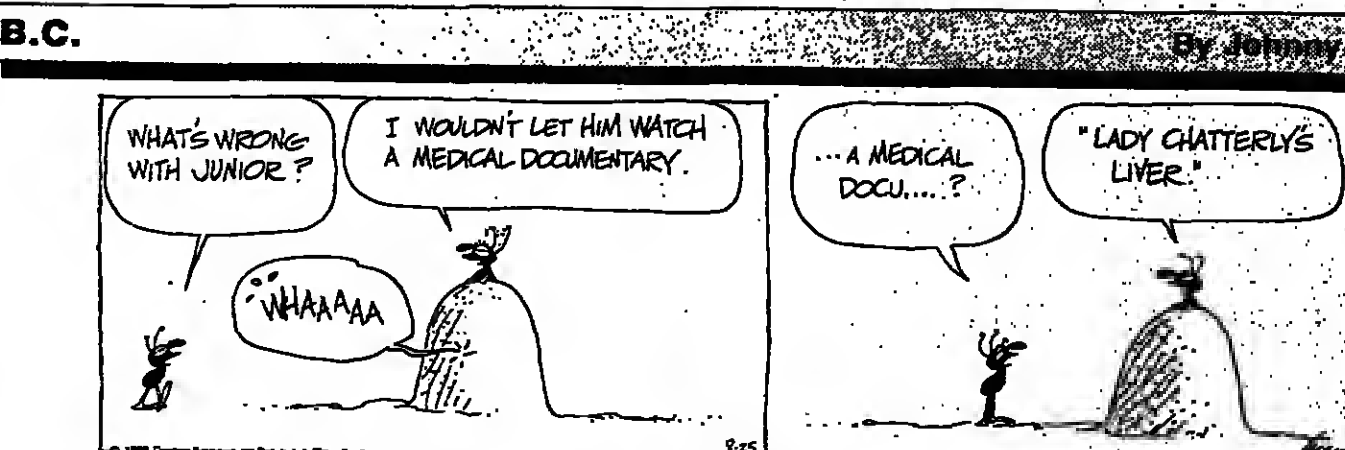
North-South reached four spades in quick time. Apparently, they had an agreement that an immediate raise of partner's major-suit response guaranteed four-card support—not recommended by this department. If not, South's correct rebid was three diamonds, which would be a one-round force, to get

partner to clarify his spade support. West got his side off to a good start with his club opening lead. Since the hand seemed to depend only on finding East with the ace of diamonds, declarer got a trifle careless. He won the ace of clubs, cashed the ace of spades and drew a second trump with the king. A heart to the king lost to the ace, and the defenders cashed a club, then forced declarer with a third round of the suit. After drawing the last trump with dummy's queen, declarer led a diamond to his queen. Suddenly, his predicament dawned on him. His only entry to dummy to lead another diamond was with a trump. But if declarer took out dummy's trump, the defenders would score the ace of diamonds and a club for a one-trick set. So declarer led a diamond from the king in the hope of finding a doubleton ace—down one. The hand was too easy. After winning the ace of clubs declarer should draw two rounds of trumps ending in dummy. Then he leads a diamond to the queen. No matter what the defense does, declarer is a tempo ahead. He will be able to lead a second diamond toward his hand to land his contract while there is still a trump on the table.



"There goes 20 bucks' worth of fireworks."

THE WIZARD OF ID



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**
You will be able to spend the day in good company. You should try to relax and not think of work. Avoid idle chatter and refrain from engaging in intrigue. Be cordial.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**
Do not take advantage of someone else's weaknesses. You too have them and he might turn the tables on you. You should take your mind off work for the day.
- Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)**
You will be able to hold your head high. You should take a little better care of your health. Make sure you do not just leave things lying around. Be sensible.
- Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)**
You will have a good idea, but you will have to discuss it with your colleagues first. You will be able to do something you have meant to do for some time now. You will be able to have bit of fun. Be resilient.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**
You could well meet someone very much to your liking. You will have something to be pleased about but you should not allow yourself to rest on your laurels. You are a little more vulnerable and should try to keep out of harm's way.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)**
You will be able to have an interesting day. An hour or two spent clearing up about the house is an hour or two well spent. You will be able to enjoy a few hours in the open air too. Beware of eating too many sweet things.
- Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)**
You will be able to advantage of a good opportunity. Make sure you do not complicate an already complex matter even further. Try not to do anything that would be on your conscience. Be amenable.
- Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)**
You will be able to come closer to your family and should do so. This is a good time for young lovers but no one should take love for granted. You should use your discretion. Be attentive.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**
You must do your best to keep yourself and should try to take it easy. You should not try to do too many things all at once. Do not take everything quite so literally. Be less resentful.
- Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)**
You will be a little unsure of yourself and should try to take it easy. You should not try to do too many things all at once. Do not take everything quite so literally. Be less resentful.
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**
Something that you have been postponing should be done without much further delay. The Moon's influence will help you to be more yourself. You will be able to recover from a certain feeling of tiredness. Be considerate.
- Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)**
You should enjoy yourself and you should also do your best to relax. It would be wrong of you to have a late night even if you do not feel tired. There is no point in being obstinate. Be skittish.

Central Bank allays fears over peso

THE Central Bank has allayed public apprehension over the continued fall of the peso against the US dollar.

CB Gov. Jose Fernandez said he was not bothered because the depreciation was less than one percent.

"You should be worried more of the dollar which has declined by three per cent against other major currencies (like the French franc and the Japanese yen)," he said.

Fernandez said that he really did not care about the downturn considering that "if you look at the country's aggregate receipts and payments, the trading of say \$300,000 is a speck in a desert."

Fernandez said that demand for dollars was caused by position of banks in anticipation of increased imports during the last quarter.

130 banks closed in past 5 years

NO less than 130 banks have fallen in the wake of Central Bank Governor Jose B. Fernandez's crusade for "sound responsible banking" in the past five years.

CB documents submitted to the House committee on banks and currency also show that the series of bank closures adversely affected over four million depositors who, in the three padlocked commercial banks alone, entrusted P4.77 billion.

The long list of banks ordered closed by the CB governor includes three commercial banks — Manila Banking Corp., Philippine Veterans Bank and Pacific Banking Corp., 24 thrift or savings banks led by Banco Filipino, and 103 rural banks.

The three commercial banks had a combined 1,108,588 depositors at the time they were closed.

Imelda with a fake passport

ILLEGAL recruiters are either so drunk with previous successes or so greedy they have become careless in their craft.

In at least two instances, they used names of Imelda.

Imelda Escreza, an alluring lass from Batangas recruited to work as a dancer in Japan, was given a passport under the name of Imelda E. Marcos. Another shapely girl, Rachel Santiago, had the passport of Alfredo, Orlas Jr.

Both were detained by airport immigration agents whose curiosity was aroused by the incongruity between the prospective travellers and the names on their passports.

Illegal recruiter arrested

A SUSPECTED illegal recruiter who allegedly collected about P2.5 million in placement fees from 358 overseas job applicants was arrested yesterday by a Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) task force.

Reynaldo Martija was arrested at the Phil-Europe Builders office on Rada St. in Makati.

Martija tried to escape through the back door but about 15 complainants who were with the POEA agents hocked him.

The complainants said they were recruited last April to work in Abu Dhabi as construction workers for placement fees ranging from P5,000 to P15,000 each.

However, they were not deployed by the agencies, the applicants said.

Martija was identified by the complainants as one of Phil-Europe's staff who collected their money.

POEA said Martija is not connected with the recruitment agency and is not authorized to collect money from applicants.

Aquino will not impede Enrile's investigations into 'corrupt' relatives

By Louie T. Logarta and Marien Ronquillo

PRESIDENT Aquino rejected Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile's request for "unqualified co-operation and support" from the government to go after presidential relatives who he said were engaged in graft and the looting of government resources.

In an interview in Malacanang, Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno said that Ms Aquino had told him there was no need for her to give Enrile access to public documents since he already has the right of full access to information.

A number of senators, meanwhile, have warned against the Senate becoming a "gossip" centre if the airing of "baseless charges" in the guise of privilege speeches becomes the order of the day.

Still, Enrile said he would unload more bombshells next week against corrupt presidential relatives.

Benigno said the President is not giving Enrile the blanket authority he wants, because "he does not need any permission from the President."

"I would think that Senator Enrile, whenever he wants access, will have access," Benigno said. "This is an open society, unlike the society before this society."

"Since he is a citizen of the republic and a senator of the realm, he certainly has read the constitution which is very clear and categorical on the matter of access to public information," Benigno quoted the President as saying.

Benigno said the President cited Article II Section 28, Article III, Section 7, Article VI Section 22, and Article XI Section 13 as those constitutional provisions which guarantee Enrile all the

access to public documents he may need to prosecute his cases.

Benigno said Malacanang would not "put any obstacle of any kind" or impede Enrile's investigation. He said the President was also interested in finding out if what the opposition solon had alleged was true.

"Since Enrile has gone on record as a senator making very clear and concise accusations, then certainly it is incumbent upon him to prove his accusations. It is assumed that a person of his stature has the responsibility to prove his accusations," he said.

Several senators yesterday warned that allowing the airing of "baseless charges" during privilege speeches could transform the Senate into a "gossip counter."

The senators, who asked not to be identified, said there is an emerging consensus that some of the allegations on widespread graft and corruption exposed during privilege speeches were either based on flimsy evidence or "very hard to prove."

When Enrile denounced in a speech some of President Aquino's relatives and associates for alleged graft and the "systematic looting" of government resources, he failed to present evidence to support his charges.

Instead, when challenged by President Aquino to file charges if he had the evidence, Enrile asked for the government's co-operation and blanket authority to dig for evidence.

The senators said they would not move to stop Enrile from using anew the privilege hour to attack the Aquino administration.

The senators, most of them fiercely loyal to President Aquino, said that Enrile has not been checking his facts before taking the floor to denounce alleged graft cases.

They said that the questions raised by Enrile last week on the whereabouts of a P100-million fund of the Cultural Centre of the Philippines was a "dud."

In his speech, Enrile asked the Senate to look into the whereabouts of the P100-million fund which, he claimed, was turned over by the Presidential Commission on Good Government to Lourdes "Odette" Ong, an aide of Aquino.

It turned out, however, that the treasury bills representing the P100-million were turned over anew to the CCP in January 1987, more than a year before Enrile's speech, the senators said.

They also said that businessman Paul Aquino, one of Ms Aquino's relatives who Enrile alleged was one of the pro-administration figures who took over the sequestered Security Bank, "should not have been dragged at all."

"The local banking community is relatively small. It is easy to get information," said one of the senators who doubted suggestions on Paul Aquino's involvement with Security Bank.

After Enrile's privilege speech Thursday on the alleged involvement of Paul Aquino, Ricardo "Baby" Lopa and Rep. Hermilio S. Aquino (Laban, Tarlac) in questionable deals, Sen. Rene Saguisag abstained on a motion to investigate the charges.

During the period of interpellation Thursday, some of the senators who used to take Enrile's tirades against the administration in stride started raising doubts on claims of "systematic looting" of government resources.

Sen. Aquino Pimentel Jr., who has been largely supportive of Enrile's efforts to pry into the dark side of the administration, stood up and said the magnitude of graft may not be in the level Enrile portrays it to be.

Swiss court to rule on Marcos hoard

THE Supreme Court of Switzerland is expected to announce shortly its unprecedented support to a decision by lower courts there to lift the veil of secrecy on the dollar hoard of deposed President Marcos and his cronies, Solicitor General Francisco Chavez said.

Chavez told Senate reporters the mood in the Swiss Supreme Court to help the Aquino administration recover the dollar hoard in banks there was relayed to him by Luis Ascalon, the Philippine ambassador to Switzerland.

Chavez, quoting Ascalon, said the expected decision would uphold earlier rulings in lower courts there to open to the Aquino administration the dollar deposits of Marcos and his cronies so recovery proceedings can be initiated.

Chavez told the news conference the expected ruling

would speed up the remittance of the dollar hoard to the Philippine courts which are supposed to take custody of the money while litigation is going on.

Chavez went to reporters after the Senate Ombudsman panel investigating alleged corruption at the Presidential Commission on Good Government denied him the chance to speak at the hearings about accusations that he has stymied the overall efforts to recover the Marcos millions.

Speaking for the panel, Senate President Pro Tempore Teodoro Guingona and Deputy Ombudsman Jose Colaveco, said the statements from Chavez on the litigation of alleged Marcos property overseas is "not material" to the ongoing investigation.

Former PCGG Chairman Ramon Diaz had asked President Aquino and Congress

to fire Chavez whom he accused of sabotaging the global recovery efforts of the agency. Diaz said the unfounded accusations made by Chavez had prejudiced the efforts to recover the wealth allegedly stolen by Marcos.

Chavez, taking the offensive, said it was Diaz and his group which bungled the recovery efforts.

He charged that \$1.6 million of the amount earned by the PCGG from the sale of recovered property in the US had been paid to American lawyers handling PCGG cases in various American states.

He said a meagre \$200,000 was left in "government coffers." The \$1.6 million, he said, was used to subsidize American lawyers who he said had failed to involve the Office of the Solicitor General in the recovery efforts overseas.

To dramatise the "questionable

recovery efforts in the US," Chavez said Diaz and the American lawyers once attempted to strike a deal with international arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi, who is suspected to be a front of Marcos on four apartments at the plush Olympic Towers in Manhattan.

Khashoggi started making noises after the attempted strike compromise fell through, said Chavez.

Chavez charged that most of the failures of the PCGG overseas were the fault of the agency and its American lawyers.

"Diaz blames the President. Diaz blames everybody. How can he blame me when I cannot even practice law in the US," said Chavez.

He said that his office is still discussing with US federal prosecutors the possible trial of Marcos in Hawaii.



End of the world in 1992?

By J. Esplanada

A MANAGER of two sequestered radio stations in the Visayas has reportedly converted the stations into "healing and religious centres" on the belief that the world would end in 1992.

A report to chairman Mateo Armando Caparas of the Presidential Commission on Good Government said a religious format has been adopted by Evan Nayve, operations manager of stations DYBR-AM and DYBR-FM of the East Visayan Broadcasting Co. (EVCB).

Nayve, the report said, is an *espiritista* (faith healer) who had reportedly predicted the end of the world in four years.

According to PCGG agent Cesar Nibo, the stations, which had been seized from former

Ambassador Benjamin "Kokoy" Romualdez, has continued to lose money because of unsound programming of Nayve.

Nayve was also reported to have told his staff not to work hard because everything would come to an end in the near future.

Ribo, who first presented his report to PCGG operations director Serafin Rivera, also alleged that Nayve continues to defy PCGG orders for an accounting of the two stations' expenses. "Mr Nayve maintains that the only person he will follow is Philip Romualdez (a son of Benjamin Romualdez)," Ribo said.

Meanwhile, it was reported that two other media outfits seized by the government from Romualdez also continue to lose money.

Soldiers attack Manila garbage!

By Eva Diaz and Danny Petilla

IN Leyte, soldiers have been seen carrying picks and shovels instead of Armalite rifles; in Manila, cans of garbage.

Deviating from their guttural, coup-quelling and rebel-chasing image, soldiers are involving themselves in ordinary community work in a bid to forge harmonious relations with civilians.

Soldiers from the Army's 51st Engineering Brigade have been assigned to collect garbage in Manila on request of the Metro Manila Commission (MMC).

Mounds of garbage in the city have to be collected by the MMC with the task of garbage collection in Manila now in its hands. The task was given back to the MMC by the city government last week.

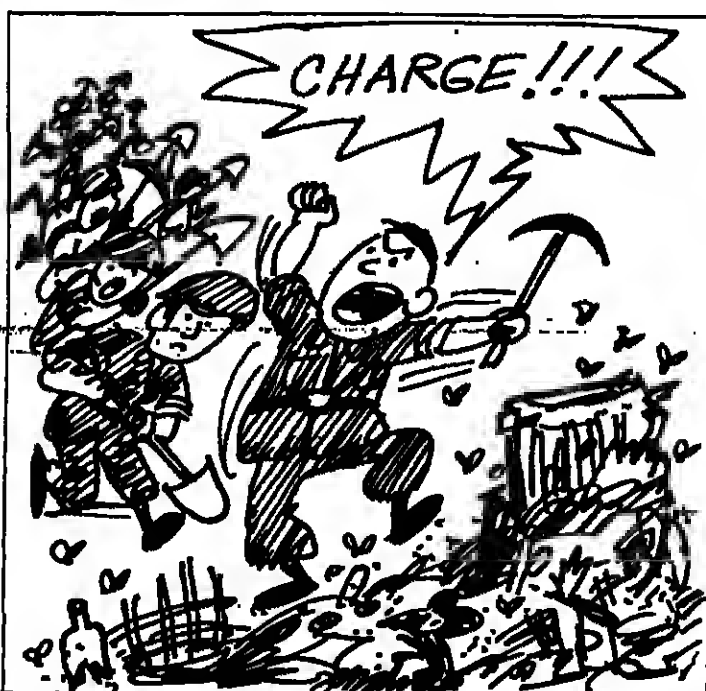
MMC Gov. Elfen Cruz said

the soldiers, together with the brigade's dump trucks and a payload, will be "on loan to the MMC until the garbage problem is solved."

Meanwhile in Leyte, truckloads of soldiers, minus their M-16s, rambled on streets to embark on a road construction project for the government.

The scheme is part of the Department of Public Works and Highway's (DPWH) long-term plan to enlist the support of the military in infrastructure projects to save on government funds which would otherwise be spent in hiring private contractors.

Last Sept 2, DPWH representatives and the military signed the first in a series of joint ventures wherein the Army's 53rd Engineering Brigade (EB) will provide manpower and heavy equipment machinery for various road construction projects in the province.



The 543rd Engineering Battalion of the brigade based in Barangay Baras in Palo town is expected to construct a 1.2 kilometre Cagumang-Cabarasan Daku barangay road worth some P300,000.

Col Domioador Catibog Jr. 53rd EB commander, told members of the Eastern Visayas Peace and Order Council that the government will save a lot of money and earn goodwill from the scheme.

A NEW standard employment contract for Filipino domestic helpers has been prescribed by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) to protect them against all forms of abuse and exploitation that prompted the government to impose a ban on their deployment in countries that have no bilateral relations with the Philippines.

The new standard contract contains provisions for contingencies not previously covered by the oil contracts and more specific as regards working

hours, dispute settlement, custody of passport, domestic helpers' rights and privileges, and the overall concerns of the transaction.

Labour Undersecretary Antonio G. Hechanova said that under the new contract the employer is required to furnish the worker a certified truecopy of the contract duly authenticated by the Philippine Embassy and processed by the POEA.

The employer must also provide the worker with personal and life insurance in the amount not less than \$5,000 for the dura-

tion of the contract at no cost to the worker in compliance with the POEA rules and regulations on overseas employment," Hechanova said.

He said addition, amendment, alteration or substitution to the contract shall be allowed only upon presentation of a written approval of the Philippine embassy.

Hechanova said other features of the new contract are the requirements that a domestic helper must not be forced to work more than 10 hours daily, given a continuous period of at least eight hours of sleep and in no case shall the domestic helper be required to work in another residence or at the business establishment of the employer.

Full Filipinisation delayed till next year

THE Filipinisation of instruction in high school and college will not be implemented this school year because of lack of time in translating English textbooks.

Education Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing said that while there is a move from heads of colleges and universities nationwide to use Filipino as a medium of instruction as provided under the constitution, bilingualism will still have to be followed at least up to April next year.

"We have not changed our policy on bilingualism," Quisumbing told regional education directors. She, however, said schools must use Filipino as the official language of communication as an initial step to the Filipinisation of the country's educational system.

President Aquino issued

Executive Order No. 335 on Aug 25, replacing English as the official mode of communication in all government agencies.

Aquino said that by intensifying the use of the national language in the government, the public would understand and appreciate better the government's programmes and projects.

Filipino and the vernacular are used both in public and private grade schools with English as a second language only.

Quisumbing said that an independent commission composed of linguists of De La Salle University, Philippine Normal College and other groups was formed to study the bilingual policy of the department and make recommendations before Filipino is adopted in School Year 1989-90.

By Rex Recidoro

AH, the jeepney: What else has not been said about this glorious Filipino contraption?

Visually, they are, at the least, colourful indeed.

Experimentally, they are exciting. Where else do you hold on for dear life every second of the ride? They swerve north, south, east and west; race to every which lane; speed to flying limits and if no cop was around one just might take off over the LRT. I recently got into one that careened — in slow motion for cinematic effect (or was it my romanticised illusion?) right smack in the middle of the lowest part of Lagusnilad beside City Hall. I, and behold, I walked away with no more than a shredded sheer knee sock and a hump on the head. Phew! I should remember to wear sturdier socks next time.

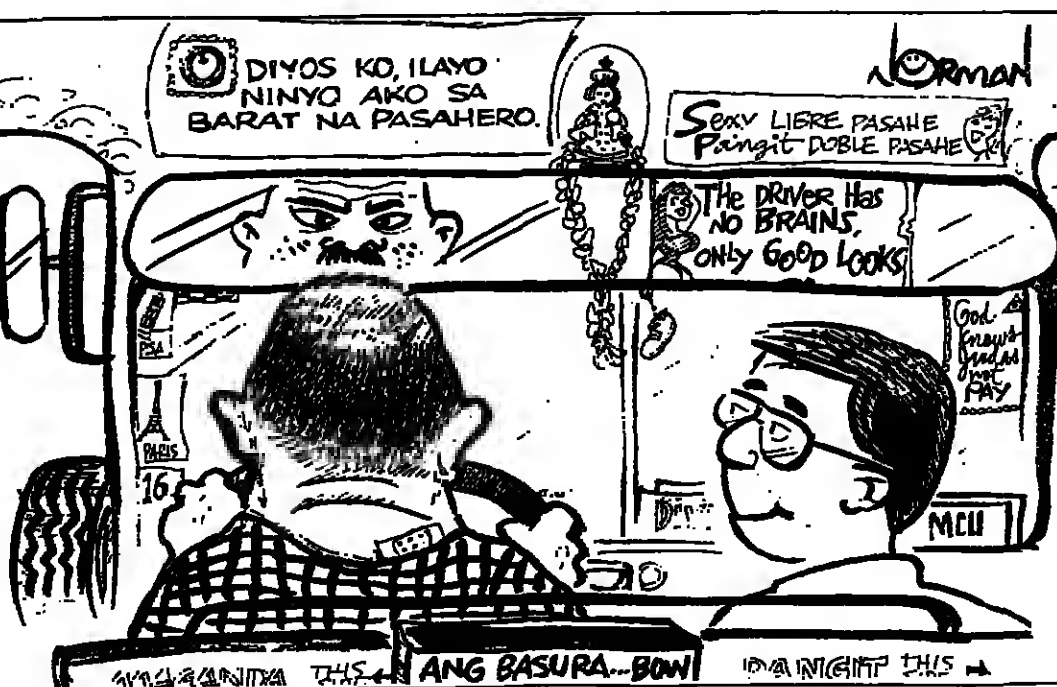
Ah, blessed are we commuters, for ours for the taking daily are little nuggets of wisdom on life on the road. Indeed, I do not at all envy a friend who spends all her life in an airconditioned car I think.

But that is not what I have set down to write about. Rather, it is those last of the thousand and one jeepney appurtenances which, between staring at the other passengers, deep reverie about life's vicissitudes while holding on to the overhead rail and looking out to where I should get off, I have of late taken special notice of — cute little verses on stickers and hanging signs.

What do you make of this: I have actually began taking down notes! Before me now is a growing pile of notes on little bits of paper torn from this and from that, all scribbled over humps and humps and potholes. Listen to this:

The best lines of verses are to be found on that glorious Filipino contraption — the jeepney!

Poetry on the road



"I'm in no hurry/I'm on my way to work."

And this:

"The driver has no brains/ Only good looks."

Imported lines of course, better stuck on tinted windshields. Absolutely insipid when the roaring, locally flavoured jeepney screeches along. Ah, there's nothing like Tagalog wit.

If your friendly neighbourhood sari-sari store has "Your credit is good/But we need cash," one jeepney has this:

"Ang pasasalamat ay magandang pakinggan/Ngumi't hindi

ito t anggap sa gasolinahan."

(Speaking of sari-sari stores, a friend's neighbour store has this taped on its pay phone: "P2.00 per call/Huwag kang magising-ungaling/Nakikita ka ng Diyos!")

If you leave God bless our home" over your door, one driver has this passionate plea:

"O Diyos ko/Ilayo ninyo ako/ Sa barat na pasahero!"

sumutsot ay aso/Ang pumara ay tao."

While courtesy on the road might be argued about, tempers, on the other hand, are a legend. Take this from a long-time commuter: a slight verbal tussle between a jeepney driver and another over swerves and out, pronto, comes a yard-long metal pipe beside the driver's seat like a rabbit from David Copperfield's hat.

The other legend of course is this: "Matapang ang driver/Sa bahay ay under!"

As if to justify the high speed, this sticker, thanks to a gas company abounds:

"Ako nga ay matulin/Upang oras n'yo ay hahulin."

Ironically, the same gas company has distributed an equal number of:

"Ako nga ay mabagal/Buhay n'yo naman ay tatagal."

I wonder how they decided which sticker to which driver. Then there's this youth-oriented, finger-wagging rhyme:

"May discount pag galing sa eskwela/May multa pag galing sa Lumeta!"

While one about workaholic drivers' "Jingle lang ang paghanga" is to date old hat, here's a refreshing change for the same subtle message:

Magaodang dalaga/Nais kung makilala/Ngumi't ako'y abala/Sa akong manibala."

Born to the average, naturally, is less than subtle:

"Ibigin mo lang ako/Boundary ko'y iyong-iyong."

Or wry: "Magandang diala/Ikaw ay bulaklak sa mata ko/Diyosa ng puso ko/Sakit ng bulsa ko!"

(Ladies, your move. Remember Bilmoko?)

On the loose is one frankly erotic:

"Pag-ibig ko'y malalasp/ Subukan mo'to among sarapi!"

Why, yes, those little poetry on the go might chronicle the times, too:

"Mag-Saudi ka, pare/Bahala ako sa kumang kong sexy!"

Postscript: Latest of the latest amenities: a trash box for the countless butts (No Smoking notwithstanding), candy wrappers et al, tucked behind the front seat. One driver, thoughtful lest dear passengers fail to notice it, has his marked:

"Ang Basura... Bow!"

An observer jots down those cute little verses on jeepneys that somehow essay what life is all about.

PBA All-Filipino Conference

Purefoods square series

By Chita De La Vega

PUREFOODS Hotdogs, playing without spiritual leader Ramon Fernandez, pulverised Anejo Rum 65, 117-112, to even up their best-of-five title series, 1-1, in the PBA All-Filipino Conference at the ULTRA.

The Hotdogs, despite their internal problems, were able to neutralise the Rum Masters' vaunted trifecta shooting to level the series after absorbing a 111-105 drubbing in game 1.

Fernandez was benched last night by coach Cris Calilan on orders from Purefoods president Rene Buhain.

"I'm just following orders. Mr Buhain told me not to use Fer-

nandez 30 minutes before the game," said Calilan.

Fernandez, on the other hand, said "I don't know their reasons. I'll sleep it over tonight and talk to them tomorrow." Fernandez was involved in a similar situation in 1984 when he was playing for Manila Beer.

Buhain said, "It is for the good of the team. I don't want to comment any further on the matter."

In the first game, Alaska Milk turned red-hot in the final quarter to stun San Miguel Beer, 121-115, and extend their best-of-three series for third place to a rubber match on Sunday.

Ludovico Valenciano's fiery three-point shooting sparked a 34-14 windup for the Milk Kings

to frustrate the Beermen from sealing the series.

Scores:

FIRST GAME:
ALASKA 121 - Vilmos 31, Valenciano 23, Ponce 16, Bernal 14, Razon 13, Alator 10, Lim 7, M. Saldaña 3, Lanza 2, Poldos 2, T. Saldaña 1.
SMB 115 - Caldaña 33, Brown 36, Teng 15, Yurid 8, Calas 8, Lim 7, Reyes 6, Cal 4, Pomeroy 4, Alvarado 0, Graves 0.
Quarters: 27-29; 54-66; 87-101; 121-115.
Refs: A. Bartolome, E. De Leon, L. Varda.

SECOND GAME

PUREFOODS 117 - Lantigua 27, Collins 26, Pineda 17, Mangos 17, Sola 7, Yanga 7, Gonzalez 7, Villapando 4, Capacio 3, Israel 2, Tamsa 2.
ANUELO 112 - Villapando 28, Ampalaya 15, Manuall 14, Detrica 14, C. Lopez 13, J. Lopez 11, Collins 9, Gonzalez 8, Isaac 6, Deon 2.
Quarters: 28-25; 54-55; 92-85; 117-112.
Refs: G. Lohman, D. Bayala, R. Benabe.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Economic growth rate per capita in Third World slowed in 1987

World Bank sees no quick solution to debt crisis

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, (Reuters): No acceptable solution to the Third World debt crisis will be found in the foreseeable future unless the flow of money out of developing countries is staunch and faster economic growth is achieved, the World Bank said today.

"Progress toward an acceptable solution to the debt crisis requires a resumption of growth in per capita terms in the debtor countries," the bank said in its annual report.

The report was released ahead of the bank's September 22-29 annual meeting in West Berlin.

Debt
Some measures of the economic health of poor countries did improve last year. Trade balances strengthened and the percentage of export revenues used to

pay foreign debts fell.

But overall, "1987 must go down as another difficult year for the highly indebted countries," said the 151-member bank, which finances development in the Third World.

The economic growth rate per capita in all developing countries slowed to 2.3 per cent in 1987 from 2.8 per cent in 1986, and they paid out \$30 billion more in debt payments than they received in new money from rich countries.

These trends cannot be sustained, the World Bank said. "Increasing outflows of financial resources from the developing countries, taken together with the data on growth of output, exports and imports... add up to a pattern of shortfalls from reasonable expectations and

progress that cannot be sustained in the medium term," the report said.

Faster growth was essential if poor countries were to restore their creditworthiness and work out their debt problems "with a realistic time frame."

The economic performance of the various regions in the Third World varied dramatically last year. The dynamic exporting nations of East Asia grew by 8.6 per cent, up from 7.3 per cent in 1986.

Environment
But heavily indebted Latin America grew just 2.5 per cent, down from 3.8 per cent in 1986, and the economies of sub-Saharan Africa actually shrank by 1.5 per cent, erasing most of the two per cent growth chalked up in 1986.

The Third World would have fared much worse if Japan's economy had not boomed, sucking in goods from around the globe.

Without extra money, developing nations will not be able to grow, relieve poverty and protect the environment.

Commercial banks are reluctant to lend more, but the World Bank, too, received more in interest and loan repayments in its latest fiscal year than it lent in new money. Net transfers to current borrowers were \$1.9 billion in the bank's favour in the year ended June 30, 1988, compared with net flows to the Third World of \$975 million in 1987.

Although the total was boosted by voluntary early loan repayments by South Korea and Romania and a temporary fall in

new loans to Brazil, Nigeria and Yugoslavia, the figures were likely to add weight to charges by bankers and academics that the World Bank is not doing enough to help the Third World.

The bank plans to make between \$14.5 billion and \$19.5 billion in new loans this year, compared with \$14.8 billion last year.

Role
But the bank said new money alone will not solve the debt crisis. Many big debtor governments must do a better job in implementing rigorous belt-tightening measures.

Chile, Colombia and Mexico have made considerable progress. "But in a number of other countries, the reform effort has been inadequate or has weakened," the bank said.

It urged efforts to cut back the role of the state in the economy and to boost domestic savings and investment.

Continued growth in the industrial world also is essential to provide export markets for poor countries. Here, the outlook has improved, but governments need to take steps to reduce the threat of inflation, the bank said.

With the huge US budget deficit in mind, the World Bank cautioned that without "credible and co-operative" fiscal policies, a recurrence of last October's stock market crash could not be ruled out.

"This circumstance is perhaps the major reason why any projections of long-term growth trends are subject to very wide margins of uncertainty," the report said.

US keen to boost exports to Japan

TOKYO, Sept. 17, (KUNA): Senior Japanese economists said today that the US Secretary of Commerce William Verity, who recently ended an official visit to Japan, wants to increase US exports to Japan since the value of the US dollar has gone up.

Japanese officials and businessmen noticed America's sudden interest in increasing exports to Japan during talks with Verity who headed a 30-member delegation of officials and US businessmen.

The economists said that the US secretary learned a lot during the visit. For example, a sofa which costs about \$1,500 in the United States could sell in Japan for \$10,000.

Delegation
However, Verity, who is the first US secretary to head a delegation of exporters to Japan has suggested selling US slippers in Japan after he learned that the Japanese take off their shoes before entering their houses or offices.

Increasing exports to Japan has become more important to the US in light of its increasing trade and budget deficits.

Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita is following the same economic policy as the former Premier Yasuhiro Nakasone who wanted Japan to depend on local products.

Economic experts here believe that the US companies are not as smart as Japanese firms because Americans do not export suitable goods to a certain country.

Official monthly figures indicate that Japanese exports to the US and the rest of the world are constantly increasing, while US goods are not being received enthusiastically.

Yugoslavia's inflation hits record 198.4pc

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Sept. 17, (AP): Yugoslavia's consumer index in August rose by 14.7 per cent over July's mark and annual inflation hit an all-time record of 198.4 per cent, the Federal Statistics Bureau said yesterday.

The record rise of inflation in the second half of this year was due to massive price hikes after the government introduced an economic austerity programme at the end of May which also limited wages and devalued the national currency, the dinar, by 23.9 per cent.

The programme, designed to cope with Europe's highest inflation, lifted price controls for about 60 per cent of goods and services which had been under a freeze since last November.

The unpopular measures contributed to a further decline of living standards, which have fallen by more than one-third since 1980. Labour unrest also increased.

A fresh wave of strikes and massive demonstrations hit this communist country after the measures were implemented, as hundreds of thousands of people demanded higher wages and changes in the leadership.

The government and the International Monetary Fund, which has helped in designing the austerity programme, have set a target that Yugoslav annual inflation should not exceed 95 per cent by the end of 1988.

The Statistics Bureau said, however, that inflation in August already has reached 98.8 per cent when measured against December last year.

Yugoslavia is negotiating a long-term rescheduling of about one-third of its \$21-billion foreign debt. It also seeks to obtain additional credits to help revive its ailing economy.

Wall Street not yet affected by signs of slowing economy

US employment growth will pick up: economist

NEW YORK, Sept. 17, (AP): In the effort to revive the sagging securities markets of Wall Street, the US economy certainly has been doing its part.

Early this year, when stocks were weighed down by fears of a recession, the economy put on a burst of impressive growth. Now, amid worries about inflation and tighter credit, business activity appears to be obliging by slowing down to a safer, more sustainable speed.

Deficit
But the traders and money managers who make the markets go still seem unsatisfied. And that has left many observers wondering just what it is the markets want.

Consider the government's latest report on international trade, which read like a prescription specifically written to cure the market's ills.

The Commerce Department figures, issued on Wednesday, showed a much larger than expected narrowing in the US trade deficit, to \$9.53 billion from \$12.22 billion in June.

In the prevailing view of things on Wall Street, the deficit was headed in the right direction for the right reason—an 8.9 per cent drop in imports, while exports continued to increase.

The implication was that the worldwide markets for goods produced in this country remained strong and that domestic demand was slowing enough at the same time to cool inflation worries.

Health
The stock market did indeed rally on the news, but the advance had a half-hearted ring to it. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials closed on Wednesday with a gain of 17.60 points. By the next day, the market

was back in the sluggish, drifting pattern that has predominated since mid-summer.

"The initial reports on the economy's health in August were unexpectedly weak," said Maury Harris, economist at PaineWebber Inc. "But one month is not a trend."

Stronger
"The erratic course of monthly data suggests it is premature to conclude that the economy is registering the slowdown from above-average growth which is a prerequisite for lower interest rates."

Similarly, Donald Straszheim, economist at Merrill Lynch, said any conclusion about slower growth is "probably premature."

The latest trend in data on unemployment claims, Straszheim observed, "suggests that employment growth will pick up

in September and that the unemployment rate will decline."

Growth in the gross national product isn't likely to slow until late this year, he said, and even then it will probably be stronger than the Federal Reserve wants to see in its campaign to restrain inflation.

"Recent indicators have delayed the next tightening by the Fed," he conceded, "but the Fed is still likely to tighten further."

In the face of such restraining comments, the Dow Jones industrial average settled for a 29.34-point gain to 2,098.15 in the past week.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 1.97 to 152.79. The Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market climbed 2.31 to 383.91 and the American Stock Exchange market value index was up .77 at 298.22.

NRIs back India's export drive

NEW DELHI, Sept. 17, (AP): A high-level committee of Non-Resident Indians pledged its all-out support to government's export efforts that would help India capture a bigger share of the world market, according to an Indian daily.

The NRIs unanimously conveyed their appreciation of the government initiative to set up the committee and expressed their support to the Indian industry's hope of achieving Rs 20,000-crore exports this year.

The first meeting of the committee constituted for promoting India's exports met here last week under the chairmanship of the Commerce Minister, Dinesh Singh.

Singh invited the committee to give its suggestions for strategies and specific steps to further strengthen the export drive in short-term as well as medium range and long run.

An official release said members made wide-ranging sugges-

tions for improving the export performance covering all aspects of the export drive. They include technological upgradation and product adaptation to meet overseas requirements in specific sectors, improvement in packaging and quality, expansion of air cargo facilities, single window clearance for exports and promotion of export-oriented joint ventures with buy-back arrangements.

Active
The NRIs said there was urgent need to promote awareness of Indian products and India's capabilities through effective displays, advertising and marketing campaigns, more frequent visit of trade delegations and regular participation in trade fairs covering a diverse range of products.

They said NRIs should be made active partners in boosting India's exports in view of their expertise and knowledge of the local markets and consumer

preferences abroad.

Dinesh Singh said the basic objective of the recent liberalisation measures was to create a self-reliant economy and to make the Indian industry internationally competitive so that it acquired the confidence and resilience necessary for healthy economic growth.

He said it had become imperative for the country to maximise exports in the shortest possible time to overcome the temporary problem of balance of payments which the drought and its after-effects had aggravated.

The minister said the measures and strategies suggested by the committee would help to select the products and foreign markets on which the Indian exporters could concentrate.

He felt an inter-action with the NRI representatives could lead to the formation of a dynamic export programme which would be both product-specific and market-specific.

American to head Goodyear India

NEW DELHI, Sept. 17: In a major decision, Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co. USA (GTRC) has decided to replace the existing Indian chairman and the managing director of Goodyear India Ltd (GIL) with a foreigner. W.F. White will take over from the present managing director, Hardev Singh, after an extraordinary general meeting of the company on Sept. 26. However, Singh will continue as a full time director for one more year, reports Economic Times.

Stake
It is also reliably learnt that the former managing director and current chairman, N. Narayanan, will be replaced. White is likely to act as chairman-cum-managing director.

Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zaid Al Nahyan, the emirate's Crown Prince in charge of oil policy, said in a statement marking OPEC's 28th anniversary that the UAE, of which Abu Dhabi is part, strongly supported OPEC unity.

"Our oil policy... calls for defending the organisation, safeguarding its achievements, and working for co-ordination among all producers inside and outside OPEC to reach a wise oil policy guaranteeing the rights of

GTRC, with an equity stake of over 60 per cent in Goodyear India, will not find it difficult to get White appointed, though government permission is required.

This is the first time in eight years that Goodyear India will have a non-Indian as its operational head. Narayanan was the first Indian managing director in 1980 and Singh followed in 1983.

It is not yet clear why the parent US company decided on White instead of appointing one of the two lifetime Indian directors on the board of GIL. Presently, P.L. Sharma and P.S. Sharma, are serving as finance and sales directors respectively in the company.

In the hierarchy of GTRC, the

outgoing managing director has a crucial say in who is to replace him. Singh was not available for comment on whether he has put in a word for one of the two Indian directors. There is also a possibility of his recommendation, if made, having been overruled by GTRC.

Company circles discounted the difference in opinion between GIL and GTRC over the issue of import of tyres as being a factor in the appointment of White.

Hardev Singh has been on record that while the import of tyres (after the government has decided to put imports under OGL) will help GTRC corner a large chunk of the newly opened Indian tyre market, it will do serious damage to the domestic tyre industry.

ment chairman Mana Sa'id Al Oteiba remains UAE oil minister and was named a member of the council.

Sheikh Khalifa said reports that some member states were breaking strict oil production quotas set by OPEC were unjustified.

"Such accusation aim to have a negative effect on the market," he said. He added that they were part of a pressure campaign to undermine oil prices, cause discord in OPEC and eventually destroy it.

He called on OPEC and non-OPEC producers to co-operate. "A decline in oil prices will lead to negative consequences that are in the interests of neither OPEC or non-OPEC states."

Cocoa prices dive as talks enter crisis

LONDON, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Cocoa prices tumbled to their lowest in 12-1/2 years today when producer and consuming nations seemed unable to agree on measures to deal with a glut.

"I am still hoping for a solution but am not very optimistic," said Albert Russchen, chairman of the International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO).

After two weeks of talks, the organisation of 17 producer and 20 consuming nations was still struggling to reach an agreement on what price to defend.

Consumers favoured a lower price than the sellers. "It looks like death row for the talks. The market thinks this is inevitable but is waiting to see it in black and white," a trader said.

Producers

Such major Third World debtors as Brazil and Ivory Coast are cocoa producers. The glut largely results from increased plantings and a saturated market in the affluent world, where filled, rather solid bars, have gained popularity.

A four-year producer struggle against an oversupplied market entered a crisis in March when the ICCO buffer stock filled to capacity at 250,000 tonnes.

A second line of defence — a scheme to take 120,000 tonnes

more off the market by agreed withholdings of supply — is blocked in the absence of a deal on what price to defend.

Futures prices at midday in London went as low as £762 (\$1,250) a tonne.

A dealer said it was difficult to know how far prices would have to fall to benefit from significant cocoa price manufacturer buying — "Christmas is coming but the right kind of cocoa is needed at the right price," he said.

Policy
Prices may be influenced by Ivory Coast sales policy.

Recent trade reports suggested the Ivory Coast, the largest producer, recently cut its prices and sold 1988-89 new crop beans. It earlier imposed a restricted sales policy.

The 12-member cocoa producers' alliance, which accounts for 80 per cent of world output, wants a boost of state support on ways to boost prices.

Koffi Walla, Togo's minister for rural development and the alliance chairman, said yesterday.

"If, for our consumer partners, this situation is ideal, it does however expose the economies of at least the majority of producing countries to paralysis, reducing their capacity for development and their possibility of repaying their heavy external debts."

Algeria and Morocco poised to sign gas pipeline deal

RABAT, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Algeria is close to clinching a multi-million dollar deal for a gas pipeline across neighbouring Morocco to Western Europe, senior Algerian diplomatic sources said today.

They said they expected details of the accord to be finalised over the next few days.

Under the deal Morocco, a major energy importer, would receive cheap Algerian oil and gas. The sources declined comment on a report in the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al Madina which said the deal would be worth \$2 billion.

Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nahi and senior officials have remained in the Moroccan capital for talks after attending a meeting of North African states on regional co-operation.

Deal

The deal would be the first major joint venture signed since Algeria and Morocco restored diplomatic ties on May 16 after a 12-year break.

Relations were severed over

Algiers' support for Polisario guerrillas battling Morocco for independence of the former Spanish colony of Western Sahara.

Diplomats said a major factor in Algeria's apparent change of position over the Western Sahara had been its keenness to get the pipeline project off the ground.

Since the oil price slump of the mid-1980s, Algeria has sought to protect itself from future price fluctuations by reducing dependence on oil revenue and building up the gas sector.

Exports
Hydrocarbons account for more than 90 per cent of all Algeria's exports. The oil price collapse froze the nation's development plans and ushered in an austerity drive.

In 1987, gas production rose 17.4 per cent to 94 billion cubic metres (336 billion cubic feet), placing Algeria firmly among the world's top producers.

This year, Algeria has signed major gas export deals with Turkey and Greece.

World Business Summary

Shell group raises interim dividend, splits stocks

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 17, (Reuters): The Anglo-Dutch oil giant royal Dutch/Shell group said yesterday it was raising its interim dividend and proposed creating more shares to attract smaller investors. The Dutch arm of the group, Rotterdam-based Royal Dutch Petroleum Company, said it was raising the interim dividend by 1.50 (71 cents) guilders to six guilders (\$2.84). Royal Dutch owns 60 per cent of the whole group, the world's second largest company after General Motors of the United States in terms of 1987 turnover. The remainder is owned by the Shell Transport and Trading PLC. Royal Dutch spokesman Eric Stenecker said from Rotterdam that, while raising the interim dividend, the firm would lower its final dividend by an unspecified amount to narrow the difference between the two. Last year, the final dividend payout stood at 8.30 guilders (\$3.93), bringing the total for 1987 to 12.80 guilders (\$6.06). Stenecker declined to comment on the level of the final or total dividend payout this year. While adjusting dividend levels, the group proposed that Royal Dutch shares would be split in two and Shell transport and trading shares in three to make them more attractive to small investors in particular, Stenecker said. "We want to improve the marketability of our shares," Stenecker said. Shell transport and trading shareholders will meet on December 7 to approve the proposed issue. No voting date has been set yet for Royal Dutch shareholders but Stenecker said the company hoped the split would become effective on January 18 next year. The market price for our shares is relatively high compared to most other shares on the Amsterdam stock exchange. In New York they're also relatively high, particularly in relation to stock of other oil firms," he said. On the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, Royal Dutch shares rose sharply on the news of the higher dividend and stock split, closing five guilders (\$2.36) higher at 233.50 guilders (\$110).

Renfrew sees no unified global electronic marketplace soon

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, (Reuters): The managing director of Reuters, Glen Renfrew, told a meeting of communications leaders here yesterday he thought a unified global electronic marketplace was unlikely during the rest of this century. Renfrew told the annual meeting of the International Institute of Communications that he saw separate worldwide trading systems in such areas as foreign exchange, stocks, shipping, energy and financial futures with some markets growing faster than others. "I do not think we shall see no global electronic marketplace place this century," he told the meeting attended by heads of telephone companies, commercial electronic services and government communications bodies from around the world. Renfrew said foreign exchange electronic trading, in which Reuters played an important role, was the most advanced towards a full-scale global electronic marketplace. Electronic trading in stocks was likely to move more slowly. "Equities trading is dominated and will continue to go on being dominated for a long time by national regulation and national interest," he said. Renfrew told the meeting that Reuters last year acquired Instinet, a company which provides automated electronic trading of international stocks. "So far it is only in 14 countries but it is going nicely," he said. He said there were still some stock markets which did not trust this system but Reuters was trying to convince them Instinet would bring more and more trading to national stock exchanges. Renfrew was taking part in a panel discussion with John Bernini, senior vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co's international services division, on the subject of global electronic markets. The panel was one of the final events of the five-day conference.

India's foreign trade with WANA countries likely to go up

NEW DELHI, Sept. 17, (KUNA): With a ceasefire in the Gulf war, India's foreign trade with West Asian and North African (WANA) countries is expected to go up. At present these countries account for a little more than 7 per cent of India's total exports. According to government sources here, the gradual increase in Indian exports to the WANA countries, suffered a setback in 1984-85 due to the sudden decline in oil prices which forced the countries in that region to drastically cut down their imports. India's exports to the WANA region last year amounted to about \$11 million. The rise in exports has been particularly significant in the case of Gulf countries.

Last year, exports to these countries touched \$8.5 million, up from about \$7 million. This was mainly due to stabilisation of crude oil prices which is India's major import from the region. Bilateral trade is conducted against payment in free foreign exchange, with India receiving the most favoured nation treatment in most of these countries.

India mainly exports tea, spices, fruits, vegetables, meat, livestock, chemicals, machinery and other miscellaneous items. To boost exports, the government is working to diversify its products and include more value added items, especially in the engineering sector. Significant success has been achieved in securing contracts for projects, mainly construction works in this region. The value of projects by Indian contractors in this region is estimated at more than \$5 million. India hopes that the construction contracts will register an unprecedented boom following the end of the Iran-Iraq war. Jordan and Algeria have been identified as potential areas for projects and efforts are under way to secure contracts there. India has the skill to undertake projects in power generation, health services, telecommunications, railways, cement, petrochemicals and others.

Non-oil exports net \$1.82b

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 17, (OPECNA): The value of Saudi Arabia's non-oil exports rose to \$1.82 billion last year from \$66 million in 1984 due to the increased activity of the country's industrial sector, a conference on industrial cooperation between Gulf Arab states and Sweden was told here. Addressing the three-day meeting which ended on Wednesday, Saudi Minister of Industry and Electricity Abdulaziz Al Zamil said that the Saudi industrial sector last year accounted for 15 per cent of the growth in the country's gross domestic product. He said that at present about 2,000 industrial ventures were operating in the country. The Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) recorded a net profit of around \$400 million last year, he said. According to Al Zamil, the economic climate in the Gulf region was constantly improving, resulting in both stability and economic growth. Another result of this improvement was that the economy in the area had returned to its normal stream with costs declining to between 30 and 35 per cent, while the inflation rate had declined, he told the meeting. Al Zamil said that adherence to economic diversification schemes by member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) paid off.

IFAD board approves 73.5m in loans

ROME, Sept. 17, (AP): The International Fund for Agricultural Development's executive board, which completed its meetings yesterday, approved \$73.5 million in loans to help small-scale farmers and fishermen in the Third World. The approved loans included \$14 million to Algeria and \$12 million to Tunisia for a prototype development project that brings two developing countries together for the first time in a large-scale development project. The project to develop the melgheg watershed includes efforts to control erosion, to raise agricultural and livestock production, to provide technical assistance and credit for farm investments. The board also approved \$10.5 million for a new project in the People's Republic of Yemen that seeks to improve the productivity of women in agriculture and livestock raising. Board members also recommended the approval of a \$302.1 million 1989 budget for the UN agency's regular programme and a \$88.4-million budget for its special Africa programme. The recommendations must be approved by the fund's governing council.

CURRENCY & BUSINESS

Alshall index for Gulf shareholding firms surges

Gloom prevails in the market

THE Alshall index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies last Wednesday averaged 42.44 points, a decrease of 0.02 point against yesterday.

Alshall index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 48.74 points with an increase of 0.18 point against 0.4 per cent for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 31.26 million shares at a daily average of 6.25 million shares with a decrease of 0.5 per cent from the last week's daily average of 6.28 million shares.

Gulf traded shares reached 7,600 million shares at a daily average of 1.52 million shares with a decrease of 24 per cent from last week's daily average of 2.00 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD10.960 million at a daily average of KD2.192 million, a decrease of 0.4 per cent from last week's daily average of KD2.200 million.

The value of Gulf traded shares was KD0.546 million at a daily average of KD0.109 million, a decrease of 17 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.131 million.

The market performance during the week showed downward signs, particularly so in the Kuwaiti shares market. This is expected at certain intervals during the third phase — slowdown — in trading activities and gradual decline in prices, following the surge which was a reflection of the ceasefire decision.

However, a resistance to this trend might occur causing fluctuating short term high activity. For the Kuwaiti shares market the banking sector came first at 51.3 per cent of total trading in which the Commercial Bank had the lead at 29 per cent followed by Burgan Bank at 19 per cent and National Bank of Kuwait at 16 per cent.

Second came the real estate sector at 20.2 per cent of total trading, of which Kuwait Projects Company led at 77 per cent followed by United Realty at 17 per cent and National Real Estate at 5 per cent.

The services sector came third, with a continuous decline in its relative importance at 12 per cent.

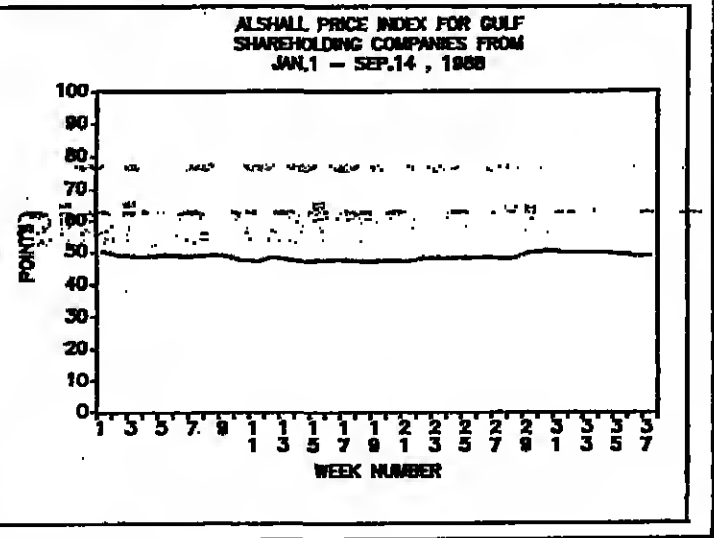
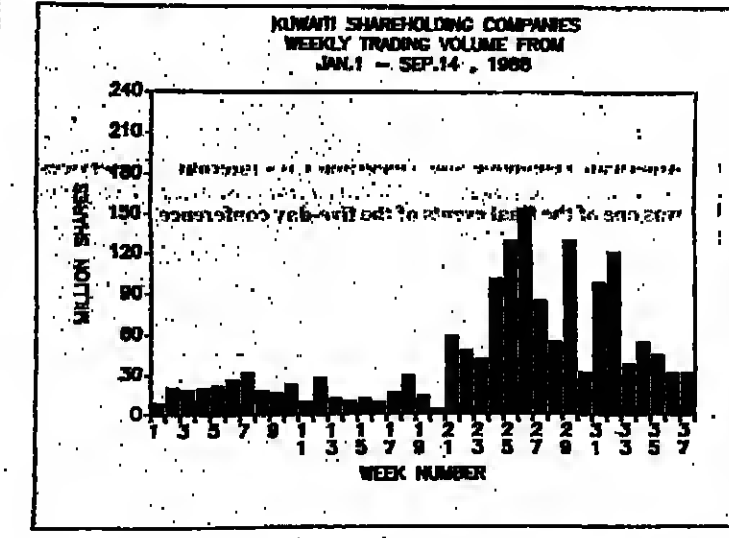
Kuwait Commercial Markets Company led in that sector at 45 per cent, followed by Mobile Telephone System at 25 per cent and Kuwait Computer Company at 22 per cent.

For the Gulf shares market, the financial sector had the lead at 80 per cent. Coast Invest and Development Co. came first in terms of trading in total volume at 45 per cent followed by Bahrain International Bank at 23 per cent and Ras Al Khaima White Cement at 16 per cent.

Investment Sector	29.02	29.38	-0.37
Kuwait Investment Co.	26.46	26.80	-0.34
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	84.13	84.13	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	73.53	75.00	-1.47
IFA	122.30	120.00	2.30
Commercial Facilities	38.89	40.12	-0.23
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	39.68	39.68	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	28.46	28.85	-0.38
Al Ahleia Insurance Co.	51.28	51.28	—
Warba Insurance Co.	79.04	79.04	—
Real Estate Sector	40.75	40.85	-0.10
Kuwait Real Estate	30.08	30.08	—
United Realty	11.84	12.06	-0.22
National Real Estate	43.00	43.00	—
Industrial Sector	21.73	21.86	-0.13
Kuwait Cement Co.	17.38	17.38	—
Refrigeration Indust.	91.14	92.24	-1.10
Gulf Cables	112.10	113.13	-1.03
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	92.44	93.33	-0.89
Services Sector	36.25	36.48	-0.23
Kuwait Computer Co.	192.24	194.40	-2.16
Kuwait Cinema Co.	9.04	9.04	—
Public Warehousing Co.	82.83	83.84	-1.01
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	36.95	36.95	—
Mobile Telephone Syst.	366.67	361.90	4.76
Food Sector	87.06	86.82	0.24
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	47.19	46.79	0.41
United Fisheries	10.91	10.91	—
Kuwait United Poultry	82.87	82.87	—
Kuwait Food Co.	82.76	78.16	4.60
Overall Index	44.48	43.74	0.94
Base Period 31/12/1983	42.44	42.47	-0.02

Kuwait shareholding companies index	14/09/88	07/09/88	Change
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	106.53	106.53	—
The Gulf Bank	34.39	34.80	-0.41
The Commercial Bank	27.44	27.44	—
Al Ahli Bank	36.52	36.04	0.48
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	33.77	33.77	—
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	33.33	33.33	—
Burgan Bank	30.72	30.72	—
Kuwait Finance House	78.61	78.61	—
Sector Index	48.24	48.25	-0.01

Gulf shareholding companies index	14/09/88	07/09/88	Change
Financial Companies			
First Gulf Bank	163.16	163.16	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	93.79	93.79	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	87.32	87.32	—
Gulf Investments Co.	61.03	61.03	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	99.05	97.14	1.90
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	61.85	61.85	—
Arabian Gen. Inv. (SHUAA)	53.79	53.79	—
Sector Index	64.24	64.04	0.20
Other Companies			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	13.68	13.68	—
Sbarjah Cement	10.50	10.50	—
Fujairah Cement	10.53	10.53	—
Ras Al Khaima W. Cement	25.56	25.00	0.56
Gulf Medical Projects	29.80	29.80	—
Sector Index	16.24	16.09	0.14
Overall Index	48.74	48.56	0.18
Base Period 31/12/1983			



Fed study offers mixed view of US economy

Wages, interest rates on the rise

NEW YORK, Sept 17, (UPI): A study prepared for next week's meeting of US central bankers offers a mixed view of the American economy, including an anticipated rebound from the adverse impact of the drought and indicators of rising inflation.

The survey cites several factors that could point towards inflation, including higher costs for raw materials and parts. In some regions, the nationwide study says, wages, as well as interest rates, are on the rise.

"The pace of business activity... ranges from healthy expansion to stable or mixed," with significantly weaker performance noted only in the St. Louis district, the study said.

But it noted a decline in optimism among some business and industry leaders in the 12 Federal Reserve districts surveyed.

Among their concerns: the strain of manufacturing, where orders are outpacing capacity and demand is boosting prices; "lackluster" consumer spending on retail goods; a slowdown in residential construction and lingering crop damage.

Private economists worry about an "overheated" economy in which high levels of employment and growth drive up prices.

Growing

"The economy has been growing very strongly — it's very robust," said Bob Defina, vice president and senior economist for Security Pacific Bank in Los Angeles.

"On the other hand, we are in the neighbourhood of what many people see as full employment, and that raises the spectre of inflation," Defina said. "We want to see growth continue, but we want to see it slow from current rates."

The Fed's study, a summary of economic conditions in the nation's 12 Federal Reserve districts, is periodically compiled for the use of the Federal Open Market Committee, a key group that exerts strong influence over interest rates and can determine the direction of the economy.

The FOMC includes the seven governors of the Federal Reserve Board, plus the presidents of five of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks throughout the country.

Speculation

The next FOMC meeting, Sept 20, comes amid speculation that the Fed may loosen its grip on the nation's credit markets in response to a recent report that the nation's jobless rate rose 0.2 per cent in August.

Speculation has grown on recent remarks by new Fed governor John LaWare and Fed vice chairman Manuel Johnson, downplaying fears of rapid growth. In addition, the drought has already slowed the economy, with many predicting more hard times ahead.

Still, most analysts say it's unlikely the Fed would change direction, especially so close to the upcoming presidential election in November.

The discount rate, set by the Fed, influences everything from household mortgages to auto loans and is one of the Fed's biggest tools for directing growth.

Among the conclusions of the Fed study:

— Rising exports and the return of offshore production is boosting manufacturing in most regions of the country. The paper, chemicals, steel and aluminium industries are at or near capacity, though there is weakness in the personal care products and defence.

Increase

— Conditions in the housing market vary widely. Recent interest rate increases have prompted some would-be homeowners to buy now, while discouraging others. Slowdowns in home building were reported in New York, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Kansas City.

— Consumer spending is "sluggish" in most areas of the country. In some areas, conservative clothing, handbags and women's leisurewear are selling well, but sales of furniture are lagging in Boston, New York and Richmond, Virginia.

— Some regions are beginning to recover from the drought, but others struggle. August rains helped crops in the Richmond, Atlanta, Kansas City and Dallas districts, but continued hot weather caused further damage around St. Louis.

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European finance ministers hold talks on tax proposals

ELOUNDA, Greece, Sept 17, (AP): European finance ministers met today to discuss ways to smooth their widely varying sales taxes in part of an effort to create a barrier-free market in 1992.

The tax issue has become increasingly vexing to the ministers of the 12-member European Economic Community and was expected to dominate talks at a resort in Elounda on the Greek island of Crete.

The ministers meet twice a year in an informal setting to hash over financial and monetary issues.

Rates

Taxes vary widely among the countries, which has led to shoppers crossing borders to buy cheaper goods.

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Kuwait dinar deposit rates ease in quiet trading

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates eased in quiet trading yesterday.

Dealers said the Central Bank announcement of a KD100 million three-month treasury bill issued dated Wednesday had no effect on the market because it merely rolled over an existing issue for the same amount.

Overnight offers opened at six per cent, close to levels on Thursday when dollar buying pushed them up. But by early afternoon overnight had traded as low as 1/2 per cent.

Spot-next was offered as low as three per cent from 6-1/2, 5-1/2 per cent levels on Thursday, with tomorrow-next as low as five, four per cent.

There was little or no trading in the fixed periods, which eased slightly in line with the short dates. One-month was put at six, 5-3/4 per cent, two-month at 6-1/16, 5-13/16 per cent, three-month at 6-1/8, 5-7/8 per cent and six-month at 6-1/4, six per cent.

Unchanged

The Central Bank kept its dinar exchange rate unchanged from Thursday at 0.28680/90 to the dollar, with commercial banks quoting spot rates of around 0.28685/95.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal deposits firmed in thin trade which saw some activity in short-dated funds as banks continued borrowing riyals to swap into dollars in anticipation of a possible devaluation of the kingdom's currency by end-1988.

Many traders believe declining oil prices may widen Saudi Arabia's projected 1988 budget deficit of around 40 billion riyals, prompting a devaluation of the Saudi currency to increase the value of its dollar-denominated oil revenues. A rise in Eurodollar deposit rates — often closely tracked by riyal deposits — also helped exert upward pressure.

Spot-next traded at levels of 8-3/8, 1/4 per cent. One- and two-week funds dealt at 8-1/2, and then 8-1/8 per cent.

Fixed period funds were marked around 1/8 point higher but business was thin due to the European weekend, when many offshore players are absent. One-month firmed to 8-3/8, 3/16 per cent from 8-1/4, 1/8. Three- and six-months both edged up 1/8 point to 8-9/16, 7/16 and 8-13/16, 11/16 per cent respectively.

One-year also firmed to 9-1/16, 8-15/16 per cent from 8-15/16, 7/8 on Thursday. Gulf banks are shut during the Muslim Friday weekend. The spot riyal eased to 3.7507/10 to the dollar from quotes of 3.7500/03.

BP plans to boost North Sea drilling activity

LONDON, Sept 17, (KUNA): British Petroleum plans to double its North Sea drilling activity next year to meet its exploration commitment to the British government, according to a report published here today.

The specialist newspaper Lloyd's List said BP plans to spend £300 million on exploration up to 1990 as one of the government conditions of its takeover of Britoil earlier this year.

BP now plans to have 20 rigs in the North Sea in 1989 rather than the 10 currently employed there, added Lloyd's.

The daily pointed out that the British oil giant's commitment to drilling had a "knock-on" effect on research and development.

Next year's research and development budget is to be increased to £6.17 million, compared with £1.5 million four years ago, Lloyd's noted.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	1.050	1.050	1.050	1.050	540000	22
GULF BANK	0.425	0.415	0.420	0.415	450000	21
COMMERCIAL BK	0.320	0.315	0.320	0.315	100000	11
ABLI BANK	0.390	0.380	0.385	0.380	170000	51
B.K.M.E	0.390	0.385	0.385	0.380	50000	4
K.R.E.S.	0.420	—	—	—	—	—
BURGAN BANK	0.320	0.310	0.315	0.310	630000	26
K.F.HOUSE	0.530	0.520	0.530	0.520	655000	35
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KMT INV. CO.	0.160	0.158	0.160	0.158	100000	3
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	—	—	—	—	—
K.I.I.C.	0.154	0.154	0.154	0.152	120000	3
COM.FACILITIES	0.480	0.490	0.490	0.490	90000	4
ABLI INV.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
ALFAH INV.	0.101	—	—	—	—	—
I.F.A.	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	220000	4
INV. PEARL KUT	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	—	—
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KMT INSURANCE	0.730	—	—	—	—	—
GULF INSURANCE	0.570	—	—	—	—	—
ARLIA INS. CO.	0.380	—	—	—	—	—
WARBA INS. CO.	0.460	—	—	—	—	—
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KMT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.238	0.236	0.236	0.236	40000	2
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.110	0.106	0.108	0.106	660000	13
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.210	—	—	—	—	—
SALAH R.E.	0.080	—	—	—	—	—
KMT PROJECTS	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.091	220000	4
KMT R.E.I.COM	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.560	—	—	—	—	—
KMT M.P. IND.	0.300	—	—	—	—	—
KMT CEMENT CO.	0.255	—	—	—	—	—
REF. IND. CO.	0.415	—	—	—	—	—
A.M.T. CO.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
CABLE	1.090	1.090	1.090	1.090	625000	4
K.P.H.IND. CO.	0.208	0.208	0.208	0.208	180000	4
DMT MARINE	0.350	—	—	—	—	—
K.S.M.REP.CO.	0.046	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.090	0.085	0.085	0.085	40000	1
K.N.C. CO.	0.190	—	—	—	—	—
KMT HOTELS CO.	0.170	—	—	—	—	—
P.WAREHOUSING	0.164	0.164	0.164	0.164	100000	3
COM.MKT.CHXP.	0.019	0.018	0.018	0.018	160000	2
MOBILE TELE.	0.385	0.385	0.385	0.380	120000	7
KUT COMPUTER	0.180	0.178	0.178	0.176	200000	7
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.230	0.232	0.232	0.232	20000	1
UNITO FISHERIES	0.154	—	—	—	—	—
UNITO POULTRY	0.226	—	—	—	—	—
KUT FOODS	0.360	—	—	—	—	—
AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	—	—	—	—	—
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BHH.INTER.BK	0.068	—	—	—	—	—
BHH.M.EAST.BK	0.047	0.046	0.046	0.046	280000	1
UNITO GULF BK	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
COAST INVEST.	0.106	0.104	0.106	0.104	400000	11
A.G. INV. CORP.	0.635	—	—	—	—	—
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B.K.I.G.	0.080	—	—	—	—	—

Higher interest curbing inflation, says Banham

LONDON, Sept 17: The Confederation of British Industry "sees early evidence" that the chancellor's use of higher interest rates to stem inflation is working, and wants them to be given more time to brake house prices, John Banham, the director-general of the CBI, said yesterday.

He said after a session of the organisation's ruling council that the prime evidence was to be seen in the housing market, where a change of sentiment had already occurred.

Banham noted that house price inflation had increased the book value of the country's housing stock by £100 billion over the past year, while the value of companies had fallen.

Investments

By comparison, manufacturing industry's investments amounted to an annual \$25 billion.

The CBI has repeatedly urged the government to foster long-term investment to make the economy competitive, rather than encourage more consumer spending.

It fears that runaway house prices encourage house-owners to spend more on credit, and make it more difficult for skilled labour to find homes, particularly in the south-east of England.

Addressing a telecommunications conference yesterday, Banham said that a 15 per cent fall in the cost of houses in London would have a "dramatic and beneficial effect" on the flow of commercial traffic in the region.

Policy

But he refused to be drawn over whether CBI policy was to make house prices drop, beyond saying that the organisation would like to see the cost of living in London becoming "more affordable for more people."

Apart from inflation, Banham saw other economic indicators moving in the right direction and said that business remained "in good health."

But he voiced concern about the risk of high interest rates having a knock-on effect on sterling, which would reduce exports and company profits.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

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ITF rejects India's appeal over replacement

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Indian officials today lost their protest against a decision not to allow Anand Amritraj to replace Ramesh Krishnan in the men's singles at the Olympic tennis tournament.

Indian Tennis Federation secretary R.K. Khanna said organisers ruled out Amritraj as a replacement because he did not have an international ranking.

Place
In accordance with the tournament rules American Robert Seguso was given Krishnan's place after the Indian number one pulled out with a shoulder injury. Players already here for the doubles are being drafted in to fill vacancies in the singles in order of world rankings.

The tournament, returning to the Games as a medal competition after a 64-year gap, has been hit by the withdrawals of four top players in the past week.

In addition to Krishnan, world number one Mats Wilander, former Wimbledon champion Boris Becker and Ecuador's Andres Gumez have all pulled out.

Organisers are worried that the absence or unwillingness of top players to come to Seoul will undermine the tournament's chances of staying in the Olympics.

Khanna said International Tennis Federation (ITF) president Philippe Chatrier had ruled out Amritraj to maintain the quality of the men's tournament.

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Timetable for the third day of the Olympics tomorrow.

Baseball: 0900 (Sunday) US v Czechoslovakia, 0145 Soviet Union v Bulgaria, 0930 Australia v South Korea, 1130 China v Yugoslavia.

Baseball: 2400 (Sunday) and 0900 preliminary bouts.

Baseball: 2400 (Sunday) and 0600 men's springboard preliminaries.

Equestrian: 2400 (Sunday) and 0400 three-day event, dressage preliminary round.

Soccer, preliminary round: 0700 Tunisia v West Germany, Group A; 0700 Zambia v Italy, Group B; 0900 Sweden v China, Group A; 0900 Iraq v Guatemala, Group B.

Gymnastics: 0100 and 1030 women's team compulsory exercises.

Modern pentathlon: 2300 (Sunday) Fencing competition.

Baseball: 2300 (Sunday) women's heats — coed fours, double sculls, coed pairs; 2300 (Sunday) men's heats — coed fours, double sculls, coed pairs, single sculls.

Shooting: 2300 (Sunday) men's free small-bore rifle, qualifying round (60 shots); 0230 final (10 shots); 2300 (Sunday) women's sport pistol, precision qualifying round (30 shots); 0130 sport pistol, rapid fire, qualifying round (30 shots); 0430 sport pistol, rapid fire final (10 shots); 2300 (Sunday) open day target, trap second round (75 targets).

Volleyball, men's preliminary round: 2345 (Sunday) US v Netherlands; 0200 Soviet Union v Sweden; 0430 France v Tunisia; 0630 Bulgaria v Italy; 0830 South Korea v Brazil; 1030 Argentina v Japan.

Weightlifting: Up to 56 kg (bantamweight) 0400, 0700, 1100 (final).

Greece-Roman Wrestling, preliminary bouts: 2400 (Sunday) and 0730 48 kg (light-flyweight), 52 kg (flyweight), 62 kg (featherweight), 74 kg (welterweight), 90 kg (light-heavyweight), 100 kg (mid-heavyweight).

ASIA MAKES IMPRESSIVE IMPACT ON OPENING

Chinese pair on course for gold

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): China were on course to collect Asia's first gold medal of the Olympics tomorrow when two of their women divers finished among the top three in today's highboard preliminaries.

Fourteen-year-old Chen Xiaodan climbed from sixth to first place with a total of 456.45 points after eight dives, 30 ahead of American Michelle Mitchell.

Chen's compatriot, 17-year-old Xu Yanmei, filled third position among the 12 qualifiers for the final with 426.27 points after leading at the halfway mark.

Complete

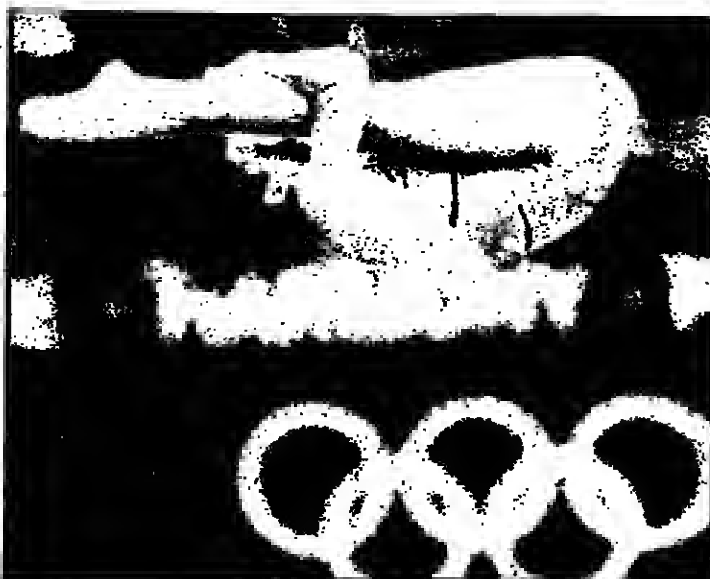
All 12 finalists start from scratch in the medals chase.

Weightlifter He Zhongqiang, world record holder in the 52-kg class, could complete a Chinese gold medal double tomorrow evening.

A third Asian medal may go to South Korea's Kang Hye-Ja in the women's air rifle competition, also tomorrow.

Earlier this morning, Asia stood proudly in the spotlight at the opening of the Seoul Olympics, putting on display its colourful and diverse cultures and people.

While the sporting powers of Europe and America may be about to dominate the competitions, they were briefly matched — if not surpassed — by China's precision marching, the warmth



China's Xu Yanmei holds a tight tuck as she spins during a dive. (Reuters wirephoto)

of the Japanese waving Intus hlossoms, the stunning saris of the Indian women and a graceful South Korean pageant.

Some 73,000 people packed the main stadium in Seoul to hear President Roh Tae-Woo declare open the Games, being staged in Asia for only the second time. They were held in Tokyo in 1964.

The crowd cheered loudly as a record 160 nations marched past. They included every Asian coun-

try in the Olympic movement except communist North Korea, which stayed away in protest at not being allowed to jointly stage the Games.

Iran were the only team to march behind a man carrying their country's name, saying it was against Islamic tradition for a woman to perform the task. They were not supported by other Muslim nations, although only Indonesia had any women



A parachutist glides in close to the Olympic flame as he comes in to land. (Reuters wirephoto)

in their contingents.

The Arab countries brought a touch of the desert with their distinctive headresses, while Asia's economic giants reflected in trendy Western clothes reflecting their eagerness to challenge Europe and America in all spheres.

Communist China, spearheading Asia's quest for gold, were smartly turned out in gleaming white and Japan, with

their show of friendliness, appeared to be making efforts through their athletes to narrow age-old differences with South Korea.

South Korea seemed less concerned with relieving tensions, picking Chu Yong-Chul, a winning member of the South Korean judo team which ousted Japan at the last Asian Games, to carry their flag.

The parade provided glimpses of more serious issues, with small contingents from war-ravaged Afghanistan and Lebanon turning up in sombre dark suits.

Mongolia offered a colourful contrast with a strongman, bare from the waist, carrying their flag in one outstretched hand at the head of a three-man contingent. Thailand were led by Miss Universe Pantip Nakhirunk-anak in a glittering Tiara.

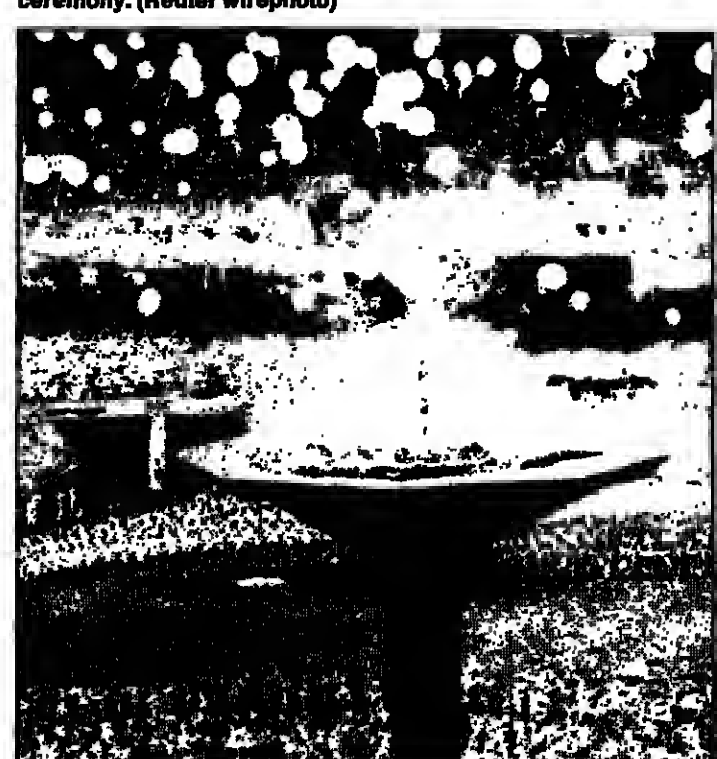
Tipped

There was glamour in the Philippine team also, with movie star and Asian sprint queen Lydia de Vega wearing a hat tipped jauntily in apparent unconcern at running against the formidable East German and US women.

The ceremony ended with an exhibition of South Korean dances and music and a spectacular display in which several parachutists dropped in a graceful spiral into the stadium.



Kuwaiti athletes wave flags as they march during the opening ceremony. (Reuters wirephoto)



Balloons are released as performers dance after the Olympic cauldron was lit. (Reuters wirephoto)



South Korean flagbearers raise the Olympic flag in the Olympic stadium. (Reuters wirephoto)



Swaziland's athletes dressed in traditional garb march in the opening ceremonies. (Reuters wirephoto)

Johnson ready to avenge defeat E. Europeans dominate boxing

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Ben Johnson, stung by defeat against Carl Lewis in Europe last month, said today he has lost weight and was eager for revenge in the 100 metres showdown with his arch rival.

"I haven't felt this good since Rome," said Johnson after a two-hour workout. He set his world record of 9.83 seconds in the Rome World Championships last year, holding off a late surge from Lewis.

Final
"This 100 metre race is gonna be a fast race. I can't wait for it to be over. Then after that I'll be OK for the relay," Johnson said. The 100 metres heats will be

run next Friday with the semifinal and final the following day. The sprint relay final is on October 1.

At the Zurich Grand Prix meeting on August 17, Lewis and American compatriot Calvin Smith left the fading Canadian in third place. Four days later at Cologne, Johnson finished third again behind Smith.

It was Lewis' first win over Johnson in five races dating back to 1985. Johnson said the defeats were a result of a lack of racing form.

He had a three-month layoff after tearing his left hamstring in Japan in May and missed four races in Europe in June. He did not race in July.

"I needed those races in Europe. I wasn't in good racing form in Zurich. But since then I've lost six pounds. I put it on during my injury when I couldn't race. I'm down to 175 pounds now. Everything's fine. I'm ready to go."

Series

Johnson, who arrived in Seoul on Friday from a pre-Olympic training camp in Tokyo, did not join the athletes' parade at the opening ceremony at the Olympic stadium. He rarely wakes up before 10 am and the march began at 10.30 am local time.

Athletes and a busload of Olympic guides took photographs of Johnson during

his training session and a member of the East German cycling team videotaped him running through a series of 60-metre sprints.

Coele Charlie Francis bemoaned the lack of equipment and security at the practice track.

"No starting pistols. No blocks. No security," said Francis before two sets of primitive blocks were found by a track attendant.

When Francis inspected the blocks he complained they did not have the customary five-centimetre anchors.

"Look at these. The spikes (which anchor the blocks into the track surface) are only a quarter of an inch."

Graf hurts knee during practice

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Grand Slam winner Steffi Graf hurt her left knee today practising for the Olympic tennis tournament but said the injury was not serious and would not hamper her performance.

The gold medal favourite needed treatment from the West German team masseur.

"There's no need to worry, actually it's nothing," Graf said. "There's absolutely no danger of me pulling out."

Graf appeared to have problems serving because of the injury, which occurred when she was practising.

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): The much-fancied East Europeans stamped their class on the first day of the Olympic boxing tournament today with Bulgarian and East German bantamweights (54 kg) scoring decisive wins over Africans.

Sudan's Peter Anok had no answer to the rapid-fire jab and stylish weaving of Alexander Hristov, Bulgaria's European champion and a gold medal favourite.

The only surprise was that just four of the five judges scored the bout in his favour rather than the whitewash the 7,500 fans had expected.

Rene Breithardt had to sweat more for his 5-0 points victory over Botswana's Magare Tsheliso whose plucky defence occasionally bewildered the East German, a silver medalist at the last world championships.

Firepower

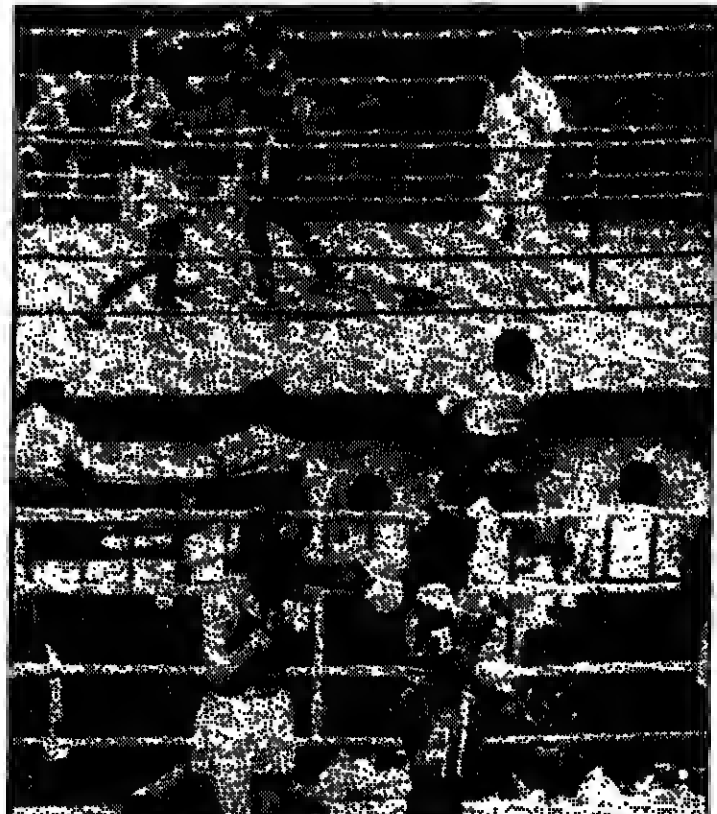
But there was no mistaking the superior technique and firepower of Breithardt who repeatedly shook Tsheliso with left hooks and crosses.

The knowledgeable South Korean fans, quietly enjoying the well-matched early bantamweight bouts, came in life only when home boxer Byun Jong-il climbed into the ring to face France's Jean-Marc Augustin.

They roared on their hero, a cagey but dangerous operator who probed constantly for openings, in a unanimous points decision.

Despite a few well-timed flurries, Augustin seemed in sense his luck was out in such a partisan atmosphere and he faded badly in the final round.

The crowd was only marginally less delighted when Mongolian light-flyweight (48 kg) Ochir Dembrel floored Mamuru



Two bouts taking place at the same time. Dambardul Bhatta of Nepal and Mark Epton (Britain) exchange blows in the foreground as an Irish and Iraqi boxer fight in the background. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kurniwa from Japan, South Korea's traditional rival, with a vicious right in the last round.

The Japanese had already been on the canvas in the previous round and the referee did not hesitate to stop the all-action bout.

Mexican bantamweight Jose Garcia linked the tnp Latin American on show by halting Grenada's Tad Joseph in just over one minute of the first round with a thunderous right hook.

Britain's light-flyweight Mark Epton scored an impressive unanimous decision over Nepal's Dambardul Bhatta, though a slight cut he suffered could prove costly in the gruelling two-week tournament boasting a record 440-strong entry.

Two rings are used simultaneously to speed up the early bouts. The bell and horn sounding the end of rounds in each occasionally confused boxers still in action in the other ring.

Technicians leave equipment behind

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): American technicians arriving in Seoul especially to install electronic eyes on the Olympic tennis court found one problem — someone in New York had forgotten to put the equipment on the plane.

The line-judging devices, which will help umpires on the Olympic showcourts, failed to arrive as scheduled on Thursday. After frantic messages across the continents, they were found lying forgotten in a corner of John F. Kennedy airport.

The equipment was put on another flight due to arrive tomorrow.

Korean runner celebrates Olympic win



Kee-Chung with the Olympic torch held aloft. (Reuters wirephoto)

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Sohn Kee-Chung waited 52 years for the chance to celebrate his Olympic gold medal among his own people. Today he did it in style.

The South Korean grandfather became the first star of the 1988 Seoul Games with his performance as torch-bearer in the Olympic stadium.

Sohn, now 76, became a national hero at the 1936 Berlin Olympics by denouncing the Japanese colonisation of Korea. He was a hero again after South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo formally opened the Seoul Games.

Capacity
His legs wobbled slightly as he entered the stadium clutching the torch. But with the capacity crowd of 73,000 and nearly 10,000 athletes roaring him on, the marathon gold medalist from the 1936 Games began to gambol and prance like a spring lamb.

Hopping, skipping and turn-

ing, he waved the torch at the crowd with abandon and beamed with almost childish delight.

"It was the most glorious moment of my life. I have nothing to regret about the Berlin Olympics now. I am very happy, very happy," he said later.

Despite the hot sun, Sohn showed he was fitter than most men 30 years his junior by jogging gamely around a quarter of the track before handing over the torch for the lighting of the Olympic flame.

The identity of the torchbearer for the opening ceremony was a closely-guarded secret. But Sohn had always been favourite because of his unique sporting and political qualifications.

Sohn set a world record in the marathon in November 1935, but had to qualify for the Japanese team at the Berlin Games because Korea was occupied by Japanese forces at the time.

A fervent nationalist, he was

forced to adopt a Japanese name but he persisted in signing autographs with his Korean name in Berlin.

Defending champion Juan Carlos Zabala of Argentina was the favourite for the marathon but Sohn won by two minutes from Britain's Ernest Harper with fellow Korean Senung-Yang Nam taking the bronze.

At the post-race press conference Sohn delivered a lecture to journalists about how his nation was suffering under Japanese rule from Korea from 1910 to 1945, a move which did not endear him to the Japanese.

Tarnished
On his return to Korea he found many fellow-countrymen felt his gold medal had been tarnished because he had won it in a Japanese vest.

That wrong was righted today and an estimated three billion television viewers around the world saw an old man rediscover his youth.

Brazil outplay Canada

SEOUL, Sept. 17, (Reuters): Oscar Schmidt led Brazil to a 125-109 victory over Canada as the men's Olympic basketball tournament began today.

Schmidt, hero of Brazil's surprise Pan American Games triumph over the United States last year, headed the scoring with 36 points in the Group B preliminary round game.

Earlier, China posted the first win of the competition by beating Egypt 98-84 in another Group B clash.

Brazil overcame the industrious Canadians on the strength of their long-range shooting — five players sank at least one three-pointer with Marcel Souza, who contributed 30 points, as target

with seven of them.

Among the spectators was John Thompson, coach of defending champions the United States, who glumly watched the three-point parade.

"There is a joke on the team that I am the piann and my teammates are my piann carriers," said Schmidt, who scored 35 second-half points in last year's upset against the Americans. "But nobody on this team really cares when shoots."

After building a 20-point lead early in the second half, Canada clawed back to trail 90-80 before Souza banged in two consecutive three-pointers from the top of the key to terminate the threat.

TOURISTS SCORE 116 FOR SEVEN IN REPLY TO PAKISTAN'S 469

Aussies call for umpire's removal

KARACHI, Sept 17, (Reuters): Australia called today for umpire Mahboob Shah not to be allowed to stand in future tour games as Pakistani cricket was once again plunged into controversy.

Australian officials launched a public protest at the standard of the pitch and the umpiring in the first Test, saying at least seven decisions had gone against the touring team.

Australia had ended the third day's play in disarray on 116 for seven after Pakistan declared at 469 for nine.

"The outside world should know we are battling great odds," team manager Colin Egar told reporters. "As manager I can take only so much — I'm afraid it got too much."

Include

Egar said the Australians had asked Pakistani cricket authorities not to re-appoint Shah for other matches in their 40-day tour. These include three one-day internationals and the remaining two Tests.

Egar said: "He has shown me that his lack of judgement is something that has upset the whole Test match. I don't think that an umpire can be off beam for so long."

But Pakistani cricket board secretary Arif Abbasi showed little sympathy. "It is much too early to have any firm opinion on the game or on anybody connected with the game. The track (wicket) was newly laid and provided equal opportunities to the two teams," he said.

The row brought back memories of England's ill-tempered tour last winter, when English fury about the umpiring



Pakistani wicketkeeper Salim Yousuf jumps and appeals loudly for a leg before wicket decision against Graeme Wood. (Reuters wirephoto)

culminated in the famous quarrel between captain Mike Gatting and umpire Shakoor Rana.

Egar said the Australian players had been told to show no feelings and maintain high discipline on the field, despite the controversy.

"We decided to complain about the umpiring after the shocking decision to give Stephen Waugh leg before to Iqbal Qasim," he said.

"No leg before decisions were

given against Pakistanis although the Australians thought they could have earned a couple of them at crucial moments."

"But when decisions were given against the Australians we thought it time to make an off-the-field move to give confidence to the players."

Yesterday Australian captain Allan Border was particularly upset by the umpire's refusal to his confident lbw appeal against Javed Miandad, when the Pakis-

tani skipper was on 186.

Egar said there were three reasons for Pakistan scoring such a large total. "One was loose bowling, the second was bad catching and the third an outside force," he said, referring to the umpiring.

Before the five-day match began on Thursday, the Australians complained about the Karachi National Stadium wicket, saying it was the equivalent of one which had taken three days play already, Egar said.

Qasim, who took four for 27 off 25 overs, and Pakistan's other spinners Abdul Qadir and Tauseef Akram found it very much to their liking today, skidding out Australian batsmen like nappies.

At one point in mid-afternoon the tourists were 64 for six. Then a gritty 42-run partnership between debutant wicketkeeper Ian Healy and slow bowler Peter Taylor halted the collapse.

Healy eventually fell after tea to fast bowler Mudassar Nazar for Australia's top score so far, 26. Tony Dodemaide joined Taylor and kept the rampant Pakistanis at bay.

Taylor went into the rest day on 22 and Dodemaide on four.

Australia's specialist batsmen had a disastrous day. Openers Geoff Marsh and David Boon were comprehensively bowled by Qasim and Qadir for eight and 14 respectively.

Dean Jones was given lbw to Qasim for three and captain Allan Border managed one more before falling to a diving catch by Aamer Malik at silly point off the same bowler.

Graeme Wood resisted longer and reached 23 before he edged a

low catch to Qasim at slip off Tauseef.

Earlier Miandad, who scored a majestic 211, let Pakistan add another 31 runs from their overnight total of 438 for six before declaring. Spinner Tim May took two of the three wickets to fall and paceman Bruce Reid the third, both bowlers ending with four wickets.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN 1st innings (overnight 438 for six)

Mudassar Nazar b Reid 0
Rameez Raja c Healy b Reid 9
Shoaib Mohammad b Waugh 94
Javed Miandad c Boon b Reid 211
Tauseef Akram c Boon b May 35
Salim Malik c Boon b Reid 45
Ejaz Ahmed c Boon b Reid 12
Aamer Malik not out 17
Salim Yousuf c Marsh b May 5
Abdul Qadir c Marsh b May 8
Extras (lb-16 lb-12 ab-5) 33
Total (for nine wickets declared) 469
Wicketfall: 1-42-21 3-217 4-284 5-398 6-428 7-444 8-457 9-469

Did not bat: Iqbal Qasim
Bowling: Reid 41-10-109-4, May 25-12-35-4, Waugh 26-3-94-1, May 40-5-10-57-4, Taylor 16-2-73-0, Border 17-7-33-4

AUSTRALIA 1st innings
G. Marsh b Iqbal Qasim 8
D. Boon b Abdul Qadir 14
D. Jones lbw b Iqbal Qasim 3
G. Wood c Iqbal Qasim b Tauseef Akram 23
A. Border c Aamer Malik b Iqbal Qasim 4
S. Waugh lbw b Iqbal Qasim 0
P. Taylor not out 22
I. Healy c Ejaz Ahmed b Mudassar Nazar 26
A. Dodemaide not out 26
Extras (lb-6 lb-6) 12
Total (for seven wickets) 116
Fall of wickets: 1-19 2-23 3-40 4-48 5-54 6-64 7-106

Bowling to date: Mudassar Nazar 8-2-14-1, Aamer Malik 2-0-6-0, Iqbal Qasim 25-14-77-4, Abdul Qadir 21-8-36-1, Tauseef Akram 16-9-20-1, Shoaib Mohammad 1-0-1-0.

Coulsen takes Hubara past Galaxy



Coulsen: four for 26

HUBARA started the 1988/89 KOC Thursday Arsonc League with an emphatic win over Galaxy by 10 wickets.

The Hubara skipper Craig Shipton lost the toss and kept up a longstanding Hubara tradition. Galaxy decided to bat first but soon wished they hadn't.

Put Flower (1-19) and Jimmy James (1-20) tied the first batsmen down as Galaxy were restricted to 39 runs off the first 12 overs. Having allowed the first four batsmen to face the pace, Haider decided to "retire" one of the batsmen to get himself in to bat which paid off with 24 off 13 balls until he fell to debutant Martin Coulsen (4-26).

Coulsen and Oliver Perera (3-26) assisted by some good Hubara catching proved too much for the flailing Galaxy batsmen.

Shipton contributed with 3 superb catches and 1 stumping. Galaxy were eventually all out for 91 runs.

Shipton (44 not out) and Dave Talbot (42 not out) then took the Galaxy bowlers apart. Both batsmen were never troubled with the Galaxy fielders with 9 players on the boundary allowing the batsmen to walk many singles.

Three S. Koreans take gold medals

SEOUL, South Korea, Sept 17, (AP): Three South Koreans and an American won gold medals today in Taekwondo exhibition competition.

Cheo Nan-Yool outpointed Maria Angela Naranjo of Spain to win the women's flyweight title, giving South Korea its first medal — albeit one in a demonstration sport. These medals do not count in the medals table.

He Tae-Kyung outpointed Gabriel Garcia of Spain for the men's flyweight gold, and Chung Kook-Hyun stopped Luigi D'Orlando of Italy in 1:42 of the first round in the men's welterweight finals.

Arlene Limas took the women's welterweight title by outpointing Kim Ji-Sook of South Korea 2-1 in the finals.

Browning pitches perfect game

NEW YORK, Sept 17, (AP): The Cincinnati Red's Tom Browning pitched a perfect game last night to beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 1-0 and go into the history books.

"It was just one of those days where everything worked, and every ball was hit right at people," Browning said last night after pitching the 14th perfect game in Major League history.

The Dodgers' Tim Lincecum had a no-hitter of his own going through five innings before losing it. He wound up with a three-hitter.

Despite the loss, the Dodgers didn't lose any ground in the

National League West race. The division leaders maintained a seven-game lead over Houston when the Astros were beaten 5-4 by San Francisco. The Astros' loss reduced the Dodger's magic number for clinching the division to 10.

Giants 5, Astros 4
Pinch-hitter Mike Aldrete's two-run single sparked a five-run sixth inning, leading San Francisco over Houston.

Allee Hammaker, 8-8, was the winner, giving up one run on two hits in five innings before leaving the game with a stiff left elbow. Craig Lefferts, who came on in

relief of Scott Garrelts in the ninth and pitched out of a bases-loaded, no-out jam, earned his 10th save.

Cardinals 3, Cubs 0

Jose DeLeon and Todd Worrell combined on a six-hitter and Willie McGee tripled home a run to lead St. Louis over Chicago.

St. Louis took a 1-0 lead with an unearned run in the fourth. Pedro Guerrero reached base on an error and McGee, sidelined since Aug 26 when he strained his left side in batting practice, tripled to center one out later to score Guerrero.

Ballesteros takes six-shot lead

ST. NOM LA BRETECHE, France, Sept 17, (Reuters): Severiano Ballesteros moved six strokes clear of the field with a 68 for a 15 under par 198 total in the Laneane Trophy golf tournament.

He is poised to record his sixth victory of the summer — five in Europe — and the 54th of his career.

Ryder Cup partner Jose Maria Olazabal is in second place after a 69 for 204 with Britain's Sandy Lyle on 206 after a 68 and Zimbabwe's Mark McNulty on 208 after a 70.

Ballesteros is 124 under par for

12 European events and 84 under for the last five, victories having come in that spell in the British, Scandinavian and German Opens and second place in the European Masters in Switzerland.

Funny

But the Spaniard insists: "It's not over yet, I once lost a seven shots lead with 11 to play to (British) Nick Faldo in Belgium. Funny things can happen in golf."

Olazabal, who played with Ballesteros, kept his faint hopes alive with a ten foot last green birdie.

Robertson routs Mir Zaman

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 17, (Reuters): Chris Robertson of Australia won the Malaysian Open squash tournament on Saturday beating Pakistan's Mir Zaman Gul 9-1 9-3 9-0.

Robertson, 21, ranked sixth in the world, engaged Mir Zaman in a series of long rallies and the Australian's superior fitness helped him to overcome the Pakistani.

Earlier, women's top seed Lisa Oplie of England defeated Australia's Michelle Martin 9-6 9-3 6-9 9-6 to regain the title she won in 1986.

Norwich extend perfect record to lead First Division

LONDON, Sept 17, (Reuters): Unheralded Norwich City maintained their surprising start to the English soccer season today, extending their perfect record to four games by winning 2-0 at Newcastle to take sole possession of the lead.

Norwich broke away at the top of the table late in the afternoon when Southampton conceded an equaliser to London club Arsenal in the seventh minute of injury time after scoring twice in the first 25 minutes.

Arsenal escaped with a 2-2 draw, Southampton's matching perfect record had gone and Norwich were alone in the lead.

Seasoned

Another team of upstarts, newly-promoted Millwall, stressed their claim to serious status at their London home with two goals from Tony Cascarino as they beat seasoned Everton 2-1 to joint Southampton in second spot, with 10 points from their four matches.

To give the top of the table a totally unfamiliar look, League champions Liverpool stumbled at home and were held to a 1-1 draw by Tottenham after failing to press home a man advantage in the last nine minutes.

After Chris Fairclough was sent off for punching John Aldridge, Ian Rush missed from three metres with three minutes left as Liverpool remained alone

in fourth place with eight points on two wins and two draws.

Everton and Arsenal share fifth place with seven points but were joined there by Manchester United, who beat Luton 2-0, and Derby County, who drew 1-1 with Nottingham Forest.

Norwich's performance was always neat and controlled against Newcastle, and although their rivals could hardly be rated as contenders, Norwich emphatically showed their own class as they broke a 68-year-old club record with their fourth successive win at the start of the season.

Dave Beasant, the goalkeeping spur in Wimbledon's FA Cup triumph over Liverpool last season, kept his new club Newcastle in the match with an early series of outstanding saves, but he could not do it all alone.

After 38 minutes, Dale Gordon scored with a delightful chip over Beasant's head, and Norwich settled the issue through Robert Fleck after 67 minutes.

"I suppose people are surprised to see us there but there is a long way to go," Norwich manager Dave Stringer said. "We're not getting carried away but we are obviously very pleased at the start we've had."

Southampton scored through Matthew Le Tissier after just two minutes against Arsenal and got a second from Rodney Wallace



Fenwick: got the equaliser for Spurs

after 24. But Arsenal showed their fighting qualities when Brian Marwood got one back with a penalty in the 82nd minute and the dramatic equaliser came deep into injury time from Alan Smith.

It climaxed an ill-tempered, physical confrontation that several times threatened to boil over.

After 79 minutes, Saints' mid-field man Glenn Cockerill was

knocked unconscious in an off-the-ball incident which the referee did not see. He was 25 metres away trying to calm things after Derek Statham had flattened new England recruit David Rocastle.

Lyle was delayed several minutes while Cockerill received treatment, then Kevin Moore was penalised for handball on his six metre line and Marwood coolly swept in the spot-kick.

Rocastle twice upset Southampton by going in hard on keeper John Burridge, but Arsenal's persistence paid off in the end.

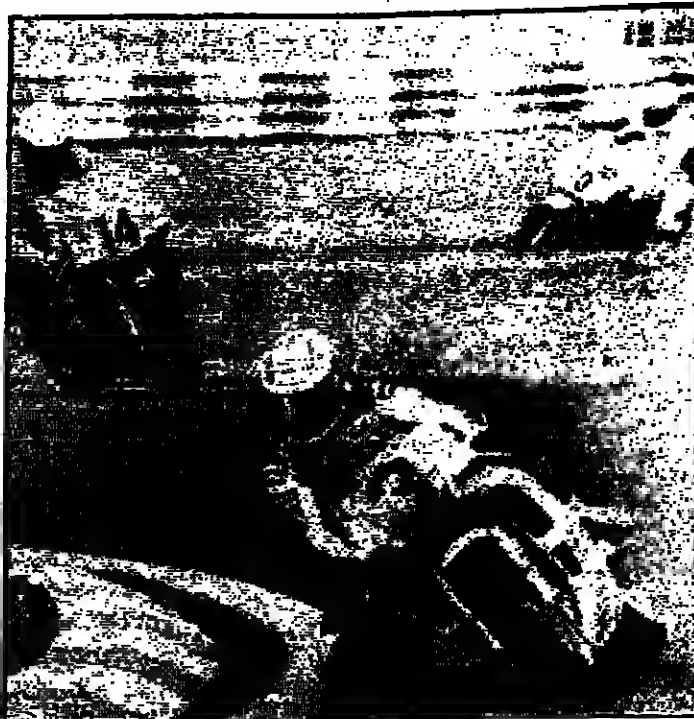
Cascarino brought his goal total to five in four games with his two early strikes for Millwall against Everton, the 1987 League champions.

He shocked Everton with a 25th minute header, then was on hand again 16 minutes later to score from a rebound off the post.

Neville Southall in Everton's goal was magnificent as usual and Everton got back into it when Alan McLeary deflected a corner into his own net in the 82nd minute.

Liverpool appeared to have the points sewn up when Peter Beardsley put them ahead in the 78th minute.

But Terry Fenwick's header two minutes later drew Tottenham level, then Fairclough was



Lawson (No.3) leads the pack during a practice run.

(Reuters wirephoto)

Gardner fastest in Grand Prix practice

GOIANIA, Brazil, Sept 17, (Reuters): Australian Wayne Gardner yesterday won the pole position for the Brazilian Grand Prix, the final event of the 500cc motorcycle world championship, to be held today over a 3.835-km course.

Gardner, last year's champion clocked one minute 26.93 seconds on his Honda, an average speed 158.834 km per hour.

"It would be nice to close the season with a victory. It makes you feel as if all the efforts made throughout the year were not in vain," the 29-year-old Gardner said.

Clinched

The second quickest lap was set by the new 500cc champion, American Eddie Lawson, on a Yamaha in 1:26.97. Compatriot Kevin Schwantz, on a Suzuki, was third at 1:27.19.

Briton Ron Haslam at 1:27.44 on an Elf was fourth. France's Christian Sarron at 1:27.81 was

fifth on a Yamaha.

Lawson, who clinched his third 500cc world title when he finished second in the Grand Prix of Czechoslovakia, said he still feels more work is needed on his machine.

"The track seems even more bumpy than last year and that makes it tough. It is the front suspension that is hardest to sort out," Lawson said.

In the 250cc, even though the fight for the title is an all-Spanish affair, it was Frenchman Dominique Sarron who set the fastest lap of the two-day official practice, with one minute 29.20 seconds, for an average speed of 154.792 kilometres per hour, on a Honda.

Spain's Alfonso "Sito" Pons, who leads his compatriot Juan Garriga by six points (216-210) going into today's decisive race, jumped from fifth to second fastest overall, securing him a vital front row spot, with 1:29.30, on a Honda.

Hatid Ligaya on top

HATID LIGAYA — Abugshoh Int'l, the 1988 Palang Pinipino champions, moved to the top of the first PBK Inter-Commercial Bowling League by winning their second game by default on Thursday at the 300 Club Silver Tower.

Hatid Ligaya are strong contenders for the title and boast players like Willy Sabay, Bob Pock, Flor Tongson, Manny Inserto, Bennie Mitchell, Carl Baginda and Ojie Olor.

In the other men's games held over the weekend, Al Naqeb and Khatat C. thrashed Al Qabandi 4-0, Far East Restaurant overcame Phil Supreme 3-1. Magnolia Ice Cream outlasted Public Authority 3-1 and 300 Club scored an easy 4-0 victory over Kay and Associates.

In the women's matches, Far East Restaurant took the top spot from last week's leaders Magnolia Ice Cream after a 4-0 victory over Boodai Aviation. Magnolia Ice Cream, however, maintained its winning run with a 3-1 triumph over Kay & Associates.

In the game between Al Naqeb & Khatat and Al Qabandi, Munib Hamdan, a Palestinian led the scoring for Al Naqeb with 606. He was followed by Waleed Al Zinkh with 583, Edwin Nepomuceno 561, Saleh Karam 522, Gien Ruiz 372 and Jimmy Tadena 148.

Al Qabandi, however, improved their position in the League after they won their second game by default on Friday.

In the women's game between Far East and Boodai, Eva Sabay topped the scoring for the former with 507 pinfalls. Jo Reyes was second with 468 while Cecilia got 366, Chary Nepomuceno 301, Cora Paras 300, Bojo Hamdan 287 and Malou Tadena 113.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Kuwait golf

KUWAIT's new golf season started this week with the first competition at the Hunting & Equestrian Club on Friday. During the season, the normal inter-club competitions will be held and Kuwait's golfers brought together in several sponsored events. A trip to Dubai's grass golf course is also being planned for Nov 10. For further information contact Ken Cook, Tel: 4898190.

KIFCO captain

AQUEEL Ashraf has been retained as captain of the KIFCO cricket team for the third consecutive year. Maqsood Akhtar remains his deputy. The team has been strengthened by the inclusion of Rashid Ansari and Arshad Shams. Abdullah Iraqi is the manager of the team.

Lester Piggott

LONDON, Sept 17, (Reuters): Lester Piggott, jailed last October for tax offences, will not face a disciplinary inquiry, the British jockey club said today. Club stewards said they had examined the records of Piggott's trial last year.

Spanish GP

BARCELONA, Spain, Sept 17, (Reuters): Ken Carlsson (Sweden) beat Thomas Muster (Austria) 6-3 6-3 6-6 1 in the final of the \$490,000 Spanish Grand Prix in Barcelona today.

Yannick Noah

GENEVA, Sept 17, (Reuters): French number one seed Yannick Noah has withdrawn from next week's Geneva Grand Prix tennis tournament due to injury. Noah, world ranked seventh, informed the organisers yesterday evening that the knee injury which forced his withdrawal from the US Open was still troubling him.

Plane missed

LONDON, Sept 17, (AP): A teenage gymnast's surprise at being a late call up for Britain's Olympic team turned to tears when she missed the plane to Seoul. British press reports said today that 15-year-old Lisa Grayson was vacationing in southwest England when she was told she was a late replacement for an injured team member.

Female hurdler

SEOUL, Sept 17, (UPI): A 20-year-old female hurdler from Taiwan suffered a slight back attack last night on the first day of the Seoul Olympics, officials said. A spokesman at the information desk of the medical centre at the Olympic village identified the woman as Chang Fen-Hwa, a 400-metre hurdler.

Boston Classic

SUTTON, Mass, Sept 17, (Reuters): Americans Steve Pate and D.A. Weir shared the lead after 36 holes of the \$600,000 Boston Classic golf tournament with six-under-par 136s yesterday.

Seattle golf

SEATTLE, Sept 17, (Reuters): American Susie Redman shot a 70 to take a one-stroke lead after two rounds of the \$225,000 Seattle women's golf tournament yesterday.

US athletes

SEOUL, Sept 17, (Reuters): The United States will not follow the Soviet Union's example of paying athletes for winning medals at the Seoul Olympics, Bob Helmick, president of the US Olympic Committee (USOC), told journalists today he believed athletes would find it more useful to receive financial aid in the long haul towards the Olympics rather than for performances during them.

Drug tests

SEOUL, Sept 17, (Reuters): Eight athletes who failed drug tests at the US Olympic trials may escape a ban with the International Amateur Athletic Federation's (IAAF) blessing.

Chris Evert

SEOUL, Sept 17, (UPI): Tennis star Chris Evert marched with American athletes in the Olympic opening ceremony today and said she had decided to compete at least one more year on the pro circuit.

Sign altered

SEOUL, Sept 17, (Reuters): A graffiti writer has altered a sign in the Canadian Olympic team office.

It used to read, above a list of competitors: "Canadian weightlifter, clean and jerk." But after four lifters were thrown off the team for drug taking, the sign was changed.

It now reads: "Canadian weightlifters: three clean and four jerks."